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A GENEALOGICAL CHART of the DIRECT ASCENDING LINE, and Portion of the DESCENDING LINE of GOV. JAMES JACKSON.

OF MORETON HAMPSTEAD,

CLEMENT AND HONOR
JACKSON.

DEVON, ENGLAND.

ABRAHAM,
B.
8 Aug., 1678.

Married
REBECCA.

JABEZ,
B. Oct. 2, 1700.
Buried at
Moreton.

SARAH
WALDRON.

JAMES,
B. Sept. 1, 1730,
D. May 15, 1782.

Aug. 30, 1753,
to
MARY WEBBER.
B. Apr. 2, 1734,
D. July 5, 1785.
at Teignm.

JAMES,
Gen'l, and Gov. of Georgia.
U. S. Senator. B. at Moreton,
England, Sept. 21, 1757. To Amer-
ica April 13, 1772 D. Mar. 19,
1806, at Washington, D. C.

30 Jan., 1785,
to
MARY C. YOUNG.
D. 5 July, 1795.

WILLIAM HENRY,
B. 3 June, 1786,
D. 8 Aug., 1875.
First Alumnus
University of Ga.
and Trustee 40 yrs.
State Senator.

MILDRED LEWIS
COBB,
B. - - - 1790.
D. Mar. 3, 1853.
Married October,
1808.

JAMES,
B. 20 Dec., 1787.
Professor
University of
Georgia.

JABEZ YOUNG,
B. July, 1790.
Member U. S. Con.
In London,
1816.

JOSEPH WEBBER,
B. 6 Dec., 1796.
Member Congress,
U. S.

MARTHA COBB
JACKSON,
B. Jan. 29, 1816,
D. Sep. 26, 1893.
Married
Dec. 23, 1834.

JOHN T. GRANT,
B. Dec. 13, 1813,
D. Jan. 18, 1887.
State Senator.

JAMES, LL. D.,
B. Oct. 18, 1820,
Judge of Superior
Court. Member U.
S. Congress, Chief
Justice of Georgia.
D. Jan. 13, 1887.



J. W. Jackson.

THE LIFE

OF

Major General James Jackson.

BY THOMAS U. P. CHARLTON,
A CITIZEN OF SAVANNAH.

HIC VIR, HIC EST, TIBI QUEM PROMITTI SOEPIUS AUDIS.
VIRG. ÆN: 6. VER. 791.

PART I.



AUGUSTA, GEORGIA:
PRINTED BY GEO: F. RANDOLPH, & CO.

....1809....

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA
RELEASED 1863
E207
J13C4

Of this Charlton's Life of Major General James
Jackson only 250 copies have been reprinted from
type and the type distributed.

(Signed.) - - - - -

Publisher, ATLANTA, GA.

No.....

7032304

District of Georgia, to wit:

BE IT REMEMBERED, *That on the fourteenth day of January, in the year of our Lord, one thousand, eight hundred and nine, and in the thirty third year of the independence of the United States of America, THOMAS U. P. CHARLTON, of said district, Esquire, hath deposited in this office, the title of a book, the right whereof he claims as proprietor and author, in the words following, to wit: "THE LIFE OF "MAJOR GENERAL JAMES JACKSON, by "THOMAS U. P. CHARLTON, a citizen of Savannah...*
" "Hic vir, hic est, tibi quem promitti soepius "audis."....1 Virg. Æn: 6. ver. 791....Part 1.... "AUGUSTA, GEORGIA."

In conformity to the act of the congress of the United States, entitled, "An act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts and books "to the authors and proprietors of such copies, during the times therein mentioned."

RICHARD M. STITES,

Clerk Georgia District.

DEDICATION

TO

My Friends,

COL : GEO : TROUP,

MAJOR GEN : DAVID B. MITCHELL,

CHARLES HARRIS, ESQ.

MAJOR O'BRIEN SMITH, *and*

WILLIAM B. BULLOCH, ESQ.

I beg leave to dedicate the following pages :

THEY contain the revolutionary services of the late General JAMES JACKSON, than whom this country never did produce a more useful citizen, or incorruptible statesman.

THE friends, whom I now request, to take this portion of his life under their protection, are distinguished by their devotion to republican principles ; they will therefore I presume, pardon me for affixing their names to a narrative, which attempts (as far as I am able) to perpetuate the fame of a patriot, whose whole life was spent in exertions for the support of these principles, and the good of the republic.

THOS : U. P. CHARLTON.

SAVANNAH, December 8th, 1808.



Engraved by C. Bartol

Geo M. Houp

INTRODUCTION.

I HERE offer to the Public the First Part of the LIFE OF MAJOR GENERAL JAMES JACKSON. Agreeably to the plan I suggested in one of my advertisements, I have separated the Revolutionary, from the Civil pursuits of that distinguished citizen; and I have endeavored to associate with his, the names and services of every Georgian, who was in any manner connected with him in the perils and trials of the war with Britain. I feel convinced, that names are omitted whose patriotism, or valor, covered them with glory: but as I was not writing a history of the revolution, I could not with any kind of consistency, advert to men, whose actions could not be brought within the circle of General JACKSON'S services. My heart is influenced by a very sincere affection for Georgia and her people, and if sufficient encouragement was given me, I would immediately undertake an history of the revolution in this State, in which I could expose the injustice done to our

heroes and patriots by all the historians; and in doing so, place the character of Georgia upon a basis of respectability, which has hitherto been withheld from her, by writers on the revolution; and such a work, would at the same time enable me to rescue from forgetfulness, the names of many warriors, who have descended the grave, or who have survived the dangers of the revolution, only to encounter the ingratitude of their country.

WHEN a revolutionary hero passes me, I feel an irresistible inclination to pull off my hat to him, and to give him my blessing, for the invaluable rights which his courage and his virtue have bestowed upon myself, and my children. If he has lost a leg or an arm, I execrate the poverty which prevents me from rendering the residue of his life comfortable, and even affluent; and in such moments, I feel an indignation at the governmental parsimony of his country, which withholds from him a liberal compensation for his toils and his wounds. Indeed, if the gratitude, or pecuniary compensation of the nation were to be a criteria of the poor soldier's revolutionary merits, it would be better, that he had never participated in the dangers of the contest with the British king. The penury and distress, which that contest surrounded our veterans with, were made the instruments of the most unprincipled speculation, upon their public securities. Their extreme poverty obliged them to sell their certificates, at two shillings and six pence in the pound, for which the government under the benign and equitable influence of a funding system, have agreed to pay the speculators (a majority of whom were perhaps enemies of the revolution) twenty shil-

lings in the pound and interest!!! With such sentiments of veneration, for the revolutionary soldiers, I have felt happy in the opportunity afforded me from a few scanty materials, to write the history of one of them. Under the influence of such sentiments, I give to my fellow-citizens the first part of the LIFE OF MAJOR GENERAL JAMES JACKSON, who as far as his courage or his virtue were permitted to exert themselves, is surely entitled to this scrap of Biography. There were other patriots who performed greater services than he performed; but I can with safety hazard the assertion, that no patriot ever practiced a more daring courage, or evinced a more fervid attachment to the liberty and independence of America, than did the heroic JACKSON. If my readers please then, I will submit his character to public investigation, not as one, who gained great and important victories, but as an officer, who in a subordinate and limited command, discharged all the duties of his station with fidelity, honor, and courage.—Or, if my readers please, they may view my hero in the simple light of a common soldier, who gallantly drew his sword in defense of the liberties of this nation; who fought seven years with undiminished enthusiasm in defence of those liberties, and who did not sheathe his sword, until it was acknowledged by the despot who had oppressed us, that we were a free and independent people....Taking the character of GEN. JACKSON from *this point of view*, I hope there is sufficient virtue left among our citizens, to receive with candor and indulgence the memoirs, of a REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIER....For any inaccuracies, which may be found in the following pages, I beg leave to

offer this apology. When I communicated my determination to write a history of the revolution in this State, and the memoirs of GEN. JACKSON, I requested those who had shared in the perils of the revolution, to furnish me with all the information which either their memories, or their papers could afford. I waited in vain for one year, and more, under a full expectation of receiving volumes of intelligence from the old Georgia officers and soldiers. Disappointed in this expectation, I was obliged to abandon the idea of writing a history of the revolution in this State, and to confine myself to the life of my much lamented friend. The papers which were given by the general in his lifetime, and after his death by his family, are the only lights which have directed me in the following imperfect and short compilation : and those papers can at any time be shewn to those, who may be curious enough to wish an examination. If any errors have crept into those papers, I cannot be made responsible for them.

I MUST acknowledge myself indebted to Dr. Ramsay's history of the revolution in South Carolina, for many facts, which I have given in his own words, and I have also borrowed expressions from the life of Washington, when I found that they were better than any I could use. The second part of this volume will appear as soon as my printers are reimbursed their expenses in publishing this part.

It is the civil, and not the revolutionary life of GEN. JACKSON that is the most interesting; and in giving a full development of the Yazoo speculation, I feel perfectly convinced that I shall fulfill every

expectation I may have excited on that subject. It was his hostility to this speculation which gave him a high place in the affection of the people of Georgia, and I hope, of all the honest men in the United States. It was the basis of his fame, and will consecrate his memory in the opinion of posterity.

LIFE
OF
Major General James Jackson.

CHAPTER I.

*Born in England . . . arrives in Savannah in 1772 . . .
espouses the American cause.*

JAMES JACKSON was born at Moreton-Hampstead, in the county of Devon, in England, on the 21st day of September, 1757. (1) We are not in possession of any materials which explain the motives of his determination to leave his native country. We only know, that he migrated to the State of Georgia in the year 1772, and was placed under the protection of John Wereat, Esq., an old and intimate friend of his father. (2)

(1) Moreton or Moreton-Hampstead, is situated on the borders of Dartmouth Forest. It is a very trifling place, the houses being mean and very irregularly built; nor does it contain anything that merits notice, except having a tolerable good manufactory for serges. It has a weekly market on Saturday and is distant from London 182 miles.

Daltons English Traveller, p. 383.

(2) This gentleman took an early part on the American side. He was speaker of the provincial congress in 1776, and acted with distinguished patriotism during the whole period of the revolution. He possessed great financial talents, which he exerted with much usefulness to the State. For this gentlemen Gen. Jackson always retained the greatest affection, and amidst the distresses of the war, found in him a sincere, kind, and hospitable friend. Mr. Wereat died in 1798, at Hardwick, his country seat, universally regretted by his fellow-citizens.

At this early age we are authorized to suppose, that young Jackson's mind had received impressions unfavorable to the political institutions of his own country. In these impressions he was no doubt encouraged, by his worthy father, whose opinions and principles it is said, were always on the side of freedom and the rights of man.

This gentlemen, had at an early period evinced a partiality for the privileges of his American brethren, and in the circle of his family and friends vehemently contended against the right of Parliament to tax the colonies. The bold and decisive opposition made by the colonists to this supremacy of power, was to the father of Jackson, a subject of great exultation. He held up their spirit of freedom, as an example worthy the imitation of his own countrymen, and his frequent panegyrics on the "American sons of liberty," gave an irresistible bias in their favor to the mind of James. . . . He sighed to become one of a people, who had displayed that enthusiastic devotion to liberty, which had already taken possession of his own feelings, and in America he conceived he would trace some resemblances to the virtue and heroism which had distinguished the ancient republics of Rome and Greece. Young Jackson, from the republican writers of his country, and the principles of his family, had imbibed the most inveterate prejudices against the hereditary and factitious distinctions of the British aristocracy ; and the principle that a man should be *born* a king, or a *legislator* was alternately the subject of his ridicule, or indignation. . . . The whole system of monarchy, appeared to him, an hideous usurpation on the natural rights of man, and considered as a violation

of those rights to oppose such a system could be neither treason, or rebellion.

The patriot assassins who deprived Cesar of his life committed no treason . . . the treason was with them who offered him a crown, and submitted to his despotism. Because a government was established, that it should therefore be permanent and eternal, was in the political theory of Jackson, degrading and absurd. PASSIVE obedience was therefore a crime in the people, when a revolutionary RESISTANCE was dictated by their reason, and their interest. Hence, the spirit which had marked the deliberations of his American brethren, promised not only a similarity of sentiment with his own, but rendered probable a revolution, which would place the happiness of a great people upon the solid basis of republican equality. With sentiments so favorable to liberty, and thus early imbibed, young Jackson parted from his friends in England and arrived at Savannah, in Georgia, in the year 1772.

Some men are constitutionally brave, others are brave from reflection . . . from a nice sensibility to public opinion.

NATURE had destined Jackson for a soldier, and had gifted him with all the properties of a constitutional courage. It may be said of him without exaggeration, that he wooed danger, and that he never was appalled by the perils and difficulties which at any time surrounded him . . . Such a man was not fit for the calm of despotism, or for those scenes which do not require the exercise of boldness, activity, and enterprise.

Goldsmith's national character of an Englishman

may with great propriety be applied to Jackson: . . . "what man dares do in circumstances of danger an Englishman will. His virtues seem to sleep in the calm, and are called out only to combat the kindred storm." *

The period of Jackson's arrival and domiciliation in the state of Georgia, was favorable to the full development of those vigorous traits with which nature had marked his character.

In 1769, the resolution not to import from Great Britain any articles whatever, was almost universally agreed to by the Colonies. The flame which had been kindled by the brave and virtuous people of Massachusetts, had begun to spread itself in every section of the colonies.

At this period, Georgia entered into the views of the other Colonies, and at this period, her people evinced that spirit of opposition to the tyrannical measures of the British government, which had been so nobly displayed by the patriots of New England.

In 1770, corresponding committees were organized to keep up the discontent of the people, and to prepare their minds for the approaching bloody contest.

* *Citizen of the World*, vol. 2, p. 122.

The year 1774 may be marked as the crisis of the destinies of the nation. The duty on Tea, had been retained, for the purpose of avoiding an abandonment of the Legislative supremacy of Great Britain. All other duties for raising a revenue in the Colonies had been repealed.

But these concessions did not appease the angry feelings of our patriots. Flushed with the success of all their previous efforts, they continued to oppose the principle of a foreign taxation, by every bold measure, which could indicate a determined hostility to British domination. . . . Warmed with the principles of liberty, and animated by the heroism they necessarily inspire, the youthful JACKSON, espoused the cause of America, and was among the first who shouldered their muskets in opposition to British measures in the state of Georgia.

CHAPTER II.

Acts as a volunteer in burning some British vessels . . . is appointed captain of a company of Light Infantry, and afterwards brigade major of the Georgia militia . . . joins General Scriven's detachment . . . Howe's defeat . . . Prison Ships . . . retires into South-Carolina and marches as a common soldier in General Moultrie's army . . . is taken up on suspicion of his being a spy . . . is in the storm of Savannah.

THE military genius of Mr. Jackson, panted for an opportunity of displaying itself. Nature had formed him an intrepid soldier, and he felt all the patriotism of a native American. Against the oppressions and usurpations of the British monarchy he had offered his services, and in defence of the liberties of his adopted country he was prepared to sacrifice his life.

The first opportunity that presented itself, and which opened a field for the display of his courage and ardor, was when Barclay and Grant proposed an attack on Savannah.

The following account of that affair is extracted from some manuscript notes and memoirs, which have been placed in my hands. "The British force under Barclay arrived some time about the month of March, 1776, and came up as far as five fathom hole, where they remained some time and sounded the river. To the great surprize of the Georgians, who had never known the depth of water in the



Engraved by W. Thomas. Sculpsit & Lithing by W. Thomas after Douglas.

JOSEPH HABESHAM.

Gen. Habesham

back Savannah river, the British pushed up several heavy armed vessels, some of which went round Hutchinson's island, and came down the main Savannah river above the town, whilst the land forces under Maitland and Grant, were marched across the island, and placed on board the merchant vessels hauled on that side of the river. Fortunately for the town the armed vessels grounded on a bank opposite to Jonathan Bryan's, from whose plantation they were much annoyed by a company of riflemen commanded by Colonel Joseph Habersham, and might have been taken possession of, if that gallant officer could have procured a sufficient number of boats to have boarded them, as the men had been driven below by the Colonel's fire. In the mean time General McIntosh, who commanded, dispatched Colonel Scriven to demand the return of a flag carried by Colonel Robarts and Major Demere. Colonel Scriven was ordered to keep off and the flag denied. Colonel Scriven then fired, and in return received a volley from the British which almost sunk his boat, although but one man was wounded. A party of volunteers commanded by Major (afterwards Commodore) Bowen, next presented themselves, who were ordered to board the fleet and set it on fire: This was effected. A ship in flames was set adrift, but she grounded. The flames of a schooner spread destruction everywhere. The British soldiers entangled in the marsh with difficulty got ashore, with the loss of their cloaths and arms.

Among the volunteers sent on this service, were John Morel, Thomas Hamilton, James Bryan, and

James Jackson." At this time, Jackson was not nineteen years of age, and the voluntary offer of his services in this bold exploit, not only evinced great firmness of character, but unequivocally confirmed the opinion entertained of his zeal and patriotism.

At the attack of Tybee, his gallantry attracted the notice of Archibald Bulloch, Esq. then exercising the executive functions of the state, and whose thanks and approbation he had the honor to receive. (3)

(3) Mr. Bulloch, was among the first of the friends of freedom in the state of Georgia. In his public character he zealously espoused and supported all measures of patriotism or hostility, to the British usurpation. In June, 1776, he directed the then Attorney General, William Stevens, now Judge of the District of Georgia, to prosecute in behalf of the people of Georgia, instead of the old form which recognized a British Government. On this subject the following paper was addressed to him.

IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS,
12th June, 1776.

To his Excellency Archibald Bulloch, Esq. President and Commander in Chief of the said Province.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

The congress having taken into consideration a letter to your Excellency from the Attorney General, stating several difficulties which arose in his mind, in regard to the carrying on of prosecutions in the Court of Sessions under our present constitution, beg leave to request your Excellency to acquaint Mr. Attorney General, that this house are of the opinion, that the same motives and reasons which compelled them for the security of persons and properties to vary in *substance* in part, from the old constitution under which we lived, will warrant the Judge of the Court of Sessions, to vary in *form* from the former precedents, so as to make form and substance reconcilable to each other; and therefore we conceive, that the Attorney General under the whole of the constitution, will be warranted in making his indictment run in the beginning in this manner: "The grand jurors for the body of the province of Georgia upon their oath present", and in the conclusion in this manner, "against the peace of the province

He was shortly afterwards appointed to the command of a volunteer company of Light Infantry ; but some discontents having taken place between himself and his men, in which he conceived a proper support was not afforded him by his Colonel,

and the welfare of the inhabitants thereof." And that the judges in case of an exception taken by counsel for the prisoners will be bound to confirm and establish such form.

We conceive there would be so great an absurdity in continuing indictments in the *name of the king*, when the courts are not convened by his authority, but from the necessity of our situation and circumstances, that it will be unnecessary to use any arguments to evince the propriety of this our determination ; nor can we apprehend, that such a variation as this can be considered as forming an independent state, either in Mr. Attorney General or us, or going one step farther than the necessity of the case absolutely requires.

By order of the Congress.

(Signed)

JOHN WEREAT, *Speaker.*

Writers on the American Revolution, have not done justice to the patriotic exertions of the people of this state, at this or any other period. At every step of the revolution, Georgia could boast of patriots, whose zeal conferred equal dignity on themselves, and the cause they espoused.

A faithful history of the revolution in this state, would rescue many actions and names from oblivion, which are entitled to the applause of the nation. The royal party was always strong, but composed of men whose attachment to any cause could not have added much lustre to it. Against these men the public indignation has never slumbered, and the host upon the Georgia acts of confiscation and banishment afford the best evidence of the feelings and opinions of the Georgia patriots during, and after the revolution. The names of N. W. Jones, James Habersham, and William Gibbons, are subscribed to the acts which proscribe and banish the traitors of the revolution.

The patriotism of Doctor N. W. Jones stood upon a rock which remained unshaken through the long course of his useful and virtuous life. He came to this state with Oglethorpe, and in 1805¹ at the advanced age of fourscore died a *patriarch of liberty, and republicanism.*

he resigned this command about the time that the invasion of East Florida was resumed by General Howe. In this expedition however no laurels would have decorated the brows of the enterprising Jackson. (4)

In the latter part of the year 1778, he was appointed brigade major of the Georgia militia.

We are told by Dr. Ramsay, that while preparations were making for the conjunct operations of Campbell and Prevest, as planned by Sir Henry Clinton, two bodies of armed men composed of regulars and militia, made a rapid and sudden incursion into the state of Georgia, from the province of East Florida. One of these came in boats through the inland navigation, and the other marched over land by the way of the Altamaha. The first division of these marauders demanded the surrender of Sunbury, but on receiving the Spartan answer, "come and take it," from the brave commandant (5) Lieu-

(4) In the summer of 1778, an expedition was undertaken against East Florida. This was resolved upon with a double view of protecting the state of Georgia from depredation, and of causing a diversion. Gen. Robert Howe, who conducted it, had under his command about 2000 men, a few hundred of which were continental troops, and the remainder militia of the states of South-Carolina and Georgia. They proceeded as far as St. Mary's river, and without any opposition of consequence. At this place the British had erected a fort, which in compliment to Tonym, governor of the province, was called by his name. On the approach of General Howe, they destroyed this fort, and after some slight skirmishing retreated towards St. Augustine. The season was more fatal to the Americans than any opposition they received from their enemies. Sickness and death raged to such a degree that an immediate retreat became necessary; but before this was effected, they lost nearly one fourth of their whole number.

Ramsay's Am. Rev. vol. 2, p. 95, 96.

tenant-Colonel McIntosh, their views against this place were abandoned, and in the retreat to an adjacent island, concealed their cowardice and disgrace. The second division pursued their march to Savannah. In their advance through the country every foot of ground was disputed with them by General Scriven's militia. In one of the engagements or skirmishes, with the enemy, that gallant chief lost his valuable life, and in all of them the courage of Major Jackson was as useful, as it was conspicuous.

Doctor Ramsay in his account of the action in which General Scriven fell, states that he received a wound from a musket ball, in consequence of which he fell from his horse, and that after he fell several of the British came up, and upbraiding him with the manner in which Capt. Moore of Brown's Rangers had been killed, discharged their pieces at him. (6)

My notes and memoirs afford me an account somewhat different. They inform me, that the General was on foot, reconnoitering in a thicket, on the left flank of the enemy's post on Spencer's Hill. On this spot an ambuscade had been formed, and he fell in the midst of it. Captain (7) Glascock a gal-

(5) Lt. Col. John McIntosh is nephew of General Lachlan McIntosh, and to the greatest personal courage unites that ardent devotion to republican principles, which have ever distinguished this branch of the McIntosh family.

(6) Ramsay's history of South-Carolina, p. 2.

(7) Thomas Glascock, now a Brigadier General of the militia of Georgia.

lant young officer was at his side and very narrowly escaped.

The early death of General Scriven prevented a total defeat of the British. The party covering their right flank had been defeated by Major Baker, and their ambuscade, in which the General fell was driven and routed, by the well directed fire of Captain Young's field pieces, aided by some volunteers under the command of Major Jackson. (8) In this action the gallant Captain Strother fell.

The invasion of Georgia, by Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, and the brilliant success which crowned his arms did as much honor to the military talents of that officer, as they effected disgrace upon the impotent exertions of the American commander.

We do not assert, that by any combination of circumstances, General Howe could have *defeated* the British, but we believe, that he could have made such an opposition to their landing as would have effected a junction with General Lincoln, which in all probability would have saved the western inhabitants. But Gen. Howe, as it has been emphatically said of him, was a general *sui generis*, and contemned the idea of taking an ungenerous advantage of an enemy. (9)

Howe was advised to send some pieces of cannon to Brewton's Hill, but he ridiculed the idea of the impending danger, and in the vain confidence of his own strength, and perhaps his wisdom, neglected or despised the salutary advice of his officers.

(8) Ms. notes on Ramsay p. 2, 3.

(9) Sketch of the life of General Elbert.



Engraved by T. Dobson

BENJAMIN LINCOLN.

B. Lincoln

The eye of a military man would at once have seen the importance of the Hill at the extremity of the Causeway....it was the Thermopylæ of Savannah. To those in possession of local information, it appears sufficiently obvious, that great carnage and in all probability a serious repulse would have been the consequences of a judicious position of two pieces of well served artillery. It is painful, however, to dwell on the particular misconduct of Gen. Howe, or minutely to detail all the circumstances connected with an event so calamitous to Georgia. I am not writing a history of the revolution. It is therefore sufficient for me to observe, that never was there a victory more complete, than the British Col. Campbell had the honor to achieve, and never was a retreat conducted with more precipitancy and confusion. It is the pride of Georgians however, that a soldierly resistance was made by a body of their militia, under the command of Col. George Walton, (10) who in facing the enemy was wounded, and taken prisoner.

Instances of patriotism are recorded of the American prisoners, which evince the virtuous heroism men are always inspired with in their struggles for republican liberty. "We have been unfortunate in battle, (said they) but the chains of the victors, shall

(10) Col. Walton received a wound in the thigh, which he ever afterwards felt inconvenience from. This gentleman during the whole of the revolution maintained a high reputation for his firmness and patriotism. He was deputed to the Congress of 1776, and shared in the glory of signing the declaration of Independence.

As a Judge of the Superior Courts of Georgia, he evinced great acuteness and learning....He died in the year 1804.

not humble the independency of our character, or compel us to abdicate our duty to our country."

Resolutely refusing to enlist into the service of his Britannic majesty, they were crowded on board of his prison ships; and in those receptacles of misery and pestilence the heroes were swept away by disease and famine.... Even the hour of death did not rescue them from the brutal sufferings of the British soldiery.... The words "rebel scoundrels," resounded in their ears in the last moments of their tortures. Frequently a drop of water was refused to an expiring patriot, and the savage Tait, commander of the NANCY PRISON SHIP, always expressed the satisfaction he felt, in contemplating the dead body of a prisoner, whose death had been accelerated by his cruelties. This nautical Calligula, had been heard to wish, that he had the power to inflict the same death and tortures on "the rebel Congress, and the whole of their rebel adherents." Such was the characters to whom the *magnanimity* of a British officer, had consigned the custody and treatment of the American prisoners! (11)

Dr. Ramsay has pathetically described the fate of Allen, who lost his life in a bold attempt to escape from his terrible confinement. These were Georgians, however his fellow prisoners, who envied his fate, and would cheerfully have embraced it. Death

(11) The following list contains the names of the prison ships and their commanders:

Nancy—Captain Samuel Tait,

Whitby—Captain Lawson,

Eleanor Hospital Ship—Captain Rathbone,

The Munificence—Captain

Rathbone, was considered a man of some humanity—The rest were monsters.

was preferable to the horrors of their loathsome confinement, or to the ease and liberation that would immediately have accompanied a political apostacy.
(12)

It was the good fortune of Jackson to escape from captivity and a prison ship; but the possession of

(12) Among those who were co-prisoners of the Rev. Moses Allen, (who united the incompatible characters of a soldier and a divine) and who survived their confinement, it affords me pleasure to mention the names of the Honorable Jonathan Bryan, Mordecai Sheftall, deputy commissary general of issues to the continental troops for the state of Georgia—his son Sheftall Sheftall, deputy commissary of the Georgia line, Edward Davies, Esq. Dr. George Wells, David Moses Vallotton and James Bryan, son of Jonathan Bryan.

Jonathan Bryan had been distinguished for his opposition to British measures from the time of the stamp act. He was dismissed from the king's council for his spirited behaviour, and after his dismissal received an handsome piece of plate from the citizens descriptive of his firmness and patriotism.

At the commencement of the revolution he had been particularly active. He had been in the council of safety, the convention and state congresses. To have such a man in their possession was an object with the British commanders, and accordingly, three nights after the reduction of Savannah, Lt. Clarke of the Phenix, or Fowey man of war and a party of armed men were dispatched up Union creek to his plantation in South Carolina, took him and his son James, prisoners, and placed them on board one of the prison ships.

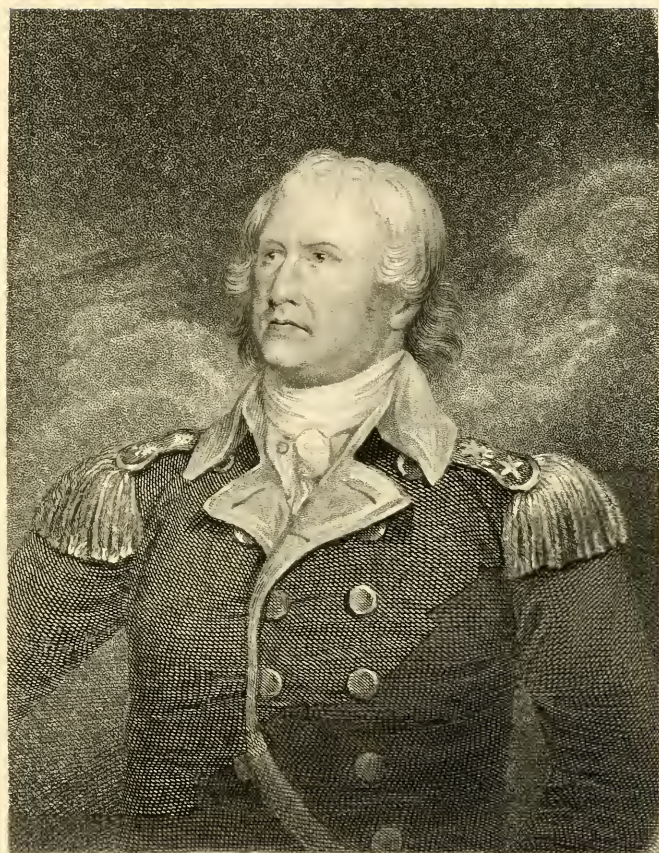
Mrs. Morel, now Mrs. Wylly, his daughter, a lady as remarkable at that time for her beauty, as for her other accomplishments, waited upon commodore Hyde Parker, and upon her knees solicited the release of her aged father. The unfeeling commodore denied her supplication. The venerable patriot and his son James were sent to New York, and after remaining a considerable time on board a prison ship, were placed on Long Island with the American prisoners. At the age of 80, he was exchanged, and behaved with all the gallantry of youth in Wayne's engagement with Brown.

Savannah, having cut off all his little resources, he was now compelled to fly before the triumphant enemy, and to encounter all the privations and distresses of a penniless and destitute soldier. Jackson's mind however, was not of a common complexion . . . fortified by the courage of a soldier, he was enabled to combat with the wants of the man. The capture or dispersion of the Georgia militia having taken from him the duties of an officer, he did not disdain to assume the station of a common soldier.

When Prevost crossed the Savannah river, Jackson was in the camp of Moultrie, and in that General's retreat marched as a common soldier from Purisburgh to Dorchester. Among other adventures of "this bare foot expedition" (as he styles it in one of his papers) he was arrested by a party of South-Carolina militia, and had nearly suffered an ignominious death under a suspicion that he was a spy. A strange suspicion to be attached to the patriotic Jackson, who was at that moment affording the most convincing proofs of his zeal in the cause of American liberty! A release and apology immediately accompanied the knowledge of his character and services.

In the seige and storm of Savannah, he in common with the Georgians, behaved with his usual gallantry.

The officers of Georgia who had not commands formed themselves into a volunteer corps under Col. Marbury, and lead the advance of Huger's column.



MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM MOULTRIE.

Will^m Moultrie

In this corps it is supposed Major Jackson had enrolled himself. (13)

(13) Not much is said of the Georgia militia in any history of this assault, although many of them were slain. Many officers who were Georgians covered themselves with glory.—Among the killed were Mr. Jno. Jones, one of the aids of Gen. McIntosh, Charles Price, a gentleman of splendid professional abilities, and Lieut. Baillie. It is said, Jones and Baillie went into action with a full presentiment, or belief, that it would prove fatal to them, yet notwithstanding this discouraging impression they fought and died like heroes.—Lieut. Edward Lloyd, another Georgian, but in the service of South-Carolina, had his right arm carried away by a cannon shot, and whilst the surgeon was dressing the shattered stump, observed to Major Jackson, who held him in his arms; “that as bad as such a prospect presented to so young a man, he would rather be in his, than in Captain Stedman’s situation;” an officer who had evinced cowardice, or deserted his post on the morning of the assault. Major Jno. Lucas, aid to Gen. McIntosh, was also a Georgian, and greatly distinguished himself. After the storm he was sent by Gen. Lincoln with a flag to agree on the terms for burying the dead, and receiving and exchanging the wounded.

CHAPTER III.

Duel with Lt. Governor Wells Battle of Blackstocks Battle of the Compens Defeat at Torrants's Tavern Services in Gen. Pickens's brigade Returns to Georgia, and joins Colonel Baker.

FROM the field of battle, the impetuosity of Major Jackson's character easily led him into the field of private honor.

In the year 1780, he fought a duel with Lieut. Governor Wells, in which combat Mr. Wells lost his life, and Major Jackson was badly wounded in both of his knees.

I know not the grounds of this unfortunate duel. Among the papers of General Jackson, I discover, that he laments the necessity of the meeting, which he says was imposed upon him by the "overbearing disposition of the Lient. Governor;" but the circumstances of the catastrophe are not detailed. We only know, that they went upon the ground without seconds, and fought at the desperate distance of a few feet.

Recovering from his dangerous wounds he retreated with Governor Howley through the state of South Carolina, then in complete possession of the British. (14)

(14) Williamson (I always suppose, that the reader has perused the history of South-Carolina by Dr. Ramsay, without a knowledge of which the character of this pseudo-patriot and traitor, as well as the detail of the principal revolutionary events, I have attempted to connect with the life of Gen. Jackson, must be in a great measure obscure and unintelligible) at this time endeavored

In August 1780, he joined Col. Clarke's camp, and was in the celebrated action of Blackstocks. "On the 20th of this month, General Sumpter was attacked at Blackstocks near Tyger river, by Lient. Col. Tarleton at the head of a considerable party.

to persuade the governor and council of Georgia, to remain at Augusta, under circumstances which induced a belief that it was his intention to betray them. He concealed his intelligence of the fall of Charleston, and from his after conduct, and the employment of suspicious characters about him, little doubt can be entertained of his treasonable intrigues with Sir Henry Clinton. The person employed by him as an express to Charleston, Martin Wetheford was well known to be in the British interest. His secretary, Malcomb Brown, was also known to be disaffected to America. Richard Howley, who was now governor of Georgia, knowing that he had nothing to expect from British mercy if taken prisoner, and guided by his apprehensions, or probably his anxiety to take his seat in congress, which the state foreseeing the storm, had given him permission to do....prudently as it turned out, determined an evacuation of the state. This determination he carried into operation a week after the surrender of Charleston, and very narrowly escaped a detachment which Cornwallis had sent in pursuit of him. The continental and state officers of Georgia retreated with the governor, and formed his guard: for the situation of the militia was such, that those who were disposed to go off immediately under Col. Twiggs had determined to carry with them the little property they possessed. The militia under Col. Clarke, influenced by the subtle advice of Williamson, stood their ground in Wilkes county, as did also the president of the council, the Hon. Stevens Heard, and a sufficient number to form a board; but finding themselves deceived (as has been related by Williamson) they also at last retreated.

President Heard, the Hon. Myrich Davies, and some others of the council animated the militia by their presence....underwent every difficulty with the troops, and were in most of the several actions in which the Georgia militia were engaged.

So much was the money of the state at this time depreciated, that it actually cost the state an half million of dollars to effect the retreat, and to defray Governor Howley's expenses to Philadelphia.

Ms. notes, 14, 15, 16.

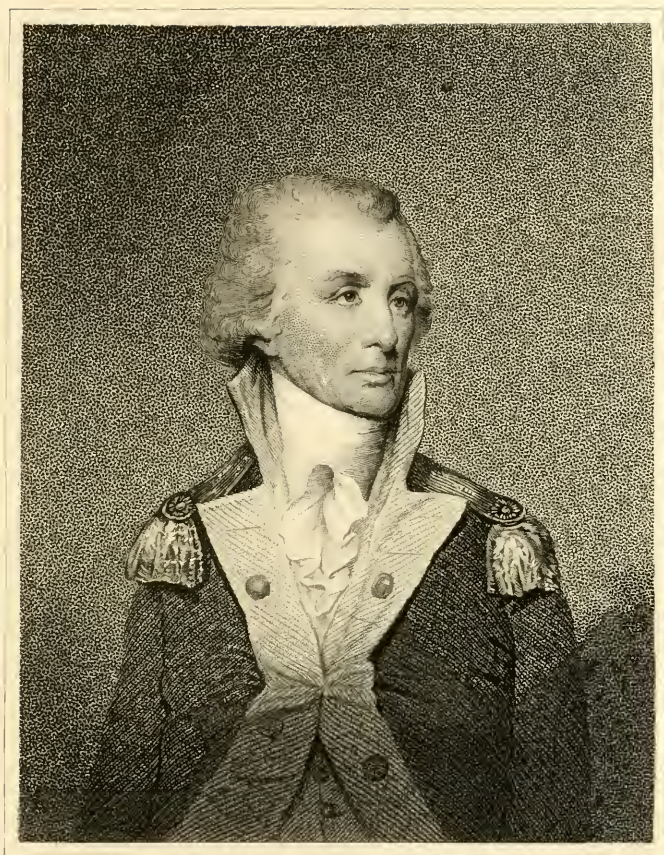
The action was severe and obstinate. The killed and wounded of the British was considerable. Among the former were three officers, Major Money, Lieutenants Gibson and Cope.

The Americans lost very few; but Gen. Sumpter received a wound, which for many months 'interrupted his gallant enterprizes, in behalf of the state.' His zeal and activity, in animating the American militia, when they were discouraged by repeated defeats, and the bravery and good conduct he displayed in sundry attacks on the British detachments procured him the applause of his countrymen, and thanks of Congress." (15)

This is the account given of the combat by Dr. Ramsay.

It is not my intention to diminish that blaze of glory, which encompasses the revolutionary exploits of the gallant Sumpter: but it is thought that Dr. Ramsay's account does not give a proper share of credit to the valor of the Georgia militia, and their officers.

It is true, that Sumpter commanded at the commencement of the action, but that wound, which the historian says, interrupted for several months "his gallant enterprizes" compelled his early retirement from the field of battle. Intelligence of the unfortunate event was communicated to Major Jackson, and through him the oldest Georgia officer was requested to take the command. It devolved upon Col.



Engraved by Parson Brooks drawing by W. G. Armstrong after the original Portrait by C. W. Peale

MAJOR GENERAL THOMAS SUMTER.

Thos. Sumter

Twiggs, and to this officer is due all the glory of the victory that ensued.

It is said that the brave Sumpter before he quitted the field, had ordered the Georgians to advance.

It is well ascertained, that in front the Georgia Wilkes county regiment performed prodigies of valour, and that Col. Lisle of South-Carolina, and Candler of Georgia, turned the British flanks.

The authority from which I have derived these additional facts, also inform me that the British made upwards of twenty charges with their dragoons, and were as repeatedly repulsed.

The dexterity of some of the Georgia Wilkes county riflemen was truly astonishing.

Instances are mentioned of a rifleman killing a dragoon in front, then falling on the ground, loading his rifle, and killing another dragoon who had charged him in the rear.

In a note to Cornwallis, (which Major Jackson intercepted, and long obtained the possession of) Tarleton attempts to cover his disgrace in this action, by informing his lordship that he had come up with, and cut to pieces the rebel *rear guard*.

This rear guard was however nothing more than small reconnoitering party commanded by Captain Patrick Carr, who had taken prisoners some tories and mill-boys. On sight of the British, Carr, as he had been ordered, retreated to make a report, leaving the wretched tories at the mercy of Col. Tarleton. (16)

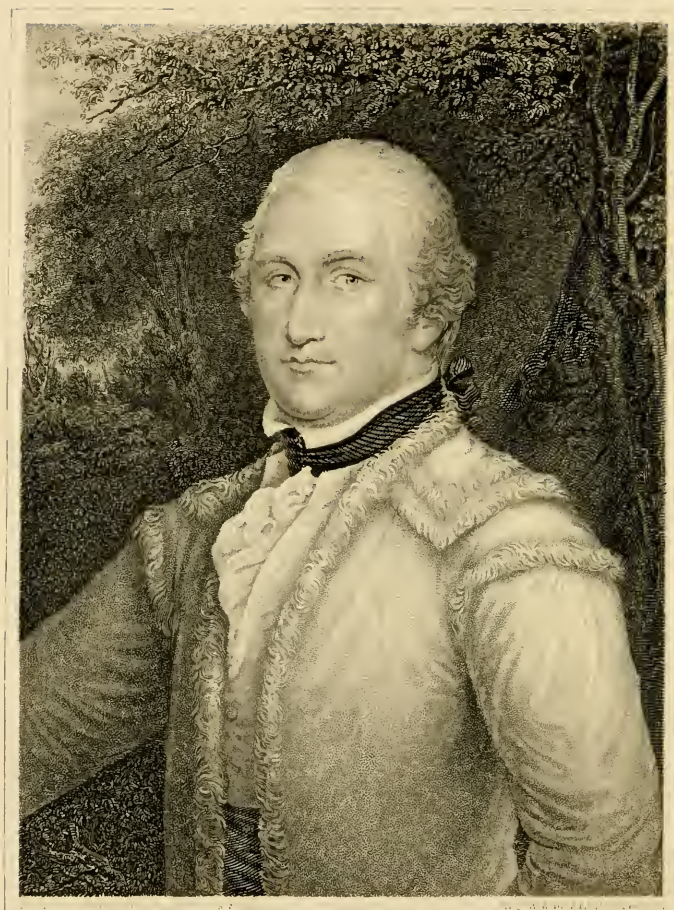
(16) Marshall also swells this reconnoitering party into a rear guard.

Life of Washington, vol. 4. 331.

Their loyalty did not save them from the sabres of his dragoons . . . they were cut to pieces, which saved them probably from a milder fate, than Carr had reserved for them. (17)

Twiggs remained on the field of battle two hours after it had ended, and detached Major Jackson after the British, who captured and brought off thirty of their horses. The British force consisted of 700 men, the greatest part of whom were regulars. The Americans brought into action only 420 militia, as appears from a comparison of the returns of Major Jackson, and the Brigade Major of General Sumpter.

(17) This was the famous Patrick or Paddy Carr, the scourge and terror of the tories, who had in battle, or in cold blood killed more than *one hundred with his own hand*. On being one day praised for his soldier-like conduct, he coolly replied, he would have made "a good soldier, but nature had formed his heart too tender and compassionate." This singular man was never heard to utter blasphemy or an oath, and he was never agitated by passion.—A friend informs me, that one of the fellow-soldiers of Carr, (I think his name was Carter) in a moment of fool hardiness, had determined to put Carr's personal firmness to the test, who had said, that he never felt the influence of fear. A keg of gun-powder was procured, near which Carr was requested to seat himself. This he obeyed with the utmost apathy and composure, and a lighted candle was applied to the powder by Carter. The providence of God interposed and prevented the dreadful explosion. The powder was snatched away and destroyed by some people who accidentally came up.—Carr, in the meantime calmly surveyed the means adopted to save him from destruction, and turning to Carter asked him if "he was now convinced, that Patrick Carr, was insensible to fear." . . . An enthusiast in the cause of American liberty, he had conceived the most dreadful and implacable hatred against the tories. Their desertion of principles which he held so sacred, entitled them upon his political hypothesis, to no kind of mercy or indulgence. Whether therefore as prisoners, or as enemies in battle he gave them no quarters. He hunted them down like wild beasts, and permitted no asylum to protect them.—In all other respects his character was amiable and benevolent.



BRIG. GEN. DANIEL MORGAN.

U.S.A.

Dan Morgan

The British lost in killed 92, and upwards of 100 wounded—among our brave countrymen, Sumpter and two others were wounded, and one killed. (18)

The conduct of Major Jackson in this action gained him a high and well earned reputation among the militia of South-Carolina and Georgia.

Such was his influence and popularity at this period, and such was the unbounded confidence reposed in him, that he more than once after Colonel Clarke, had been disabled by a wound at Long Cane, saved his camp from a total abandonment. (19)

From the field of Blackstocks we will next conduct Major Jackson to the battle of the Cowpens, in which he acquired much glory and the marked approbation of Gen. Morgan.

The details of this battle are in the possession of every one. It is only my duty to advert to them as they may be immediately connected with the particular conduct of Major Jackson. The day preceding this memorable engagement, the gallant Morgan was joined by the militia under the command of Pickens.—Morgan was then at the Cowpens, and

(18) Tarleton in his campaigns informs us that upwards of 150 of the Americans were killed. This added to the rebel *rear guard* which he had the honor of cutting to pieces must have made great havoc indeed!

Such a number of *killed* must of course too, have included a vast number of wounded.

The fact is however, the British lost in killed and wounded 192—Gen. Marshall computes the American loss at 3 killed and 4 wounded—Life of Washington, vol. 4. p. 333: but the fact again is, that only three were wounded, and one killed, Rogers of the Georgia Wilkes county militia.

(19) I collect this from the papers of Gen. Jackson.

had resolved to give battle to the enemy. The Georgia (20) and South-Carolina militia were incorporated, and placed under the command of Pickens, who appointed Major Jackson, Brigade Major of the whole.

On this day he had the honor to receive the sword of Major McArthur of the British infantry, whom

(20) The following address had been delivered to Major Jackson, to be distributed among the Georgians then scattered and dispersed in the back parts of South-Carolina, and enjoying a temporary respite after the action of Long Cane, in which Col. Clarke was so severely wounded as to be obliged to retire from his command.

This animated address, which appealed so forcibly to the feelings, the courage and patriotism of the Georgians, soon collected them. They formed the front line of the battle of the Cowpens, and in receiving the first shock of the enemy, behaved with firmness and gallantry.

TO THE REFUGEES OF GEORGIA!

GENTLEMEN,

Having heard of your sufferings, your attachment to the cause of freedom, and your gallantry and address in action, I had formed to myself the pleasing idea of receiving in you, a great and valuable acquisition to my force. Judge then of my disappointment, when I find you scattered about in parties subjected to no orders, nor joining in any general plan to promote the public service. The recollection of your past achievements, and the prospect of future laurels should prevent your acting in such a manner for a moment. You have gained a character and why should you risk the loss of it for the most trifling gratifications. You must know, that in your present situation, you can neither provide for your safety nor assist me in annoying the enemy. Let me then entreat you by the regard you have for your fame, and by your love to your country, to repair to my camp, and subject yourselves to order and discipline. I will ask you to encounter no dangers or difficulties, but what I shall participate in. Should it be thought advisable to form detachments, you may rely on being employed on that business, if it is more agreeable to your wishes: but it is absolutely necessary, that your situation and movements should be known to me, so that I may be enabled to

he conducted to Gen. Morgan, and to receive the thanks of the General on the field of battle, for his useful and conspicuous services during the engagement. Major Jackson's name is not mentioned in General Morgan's report of meritorious officers, an omission which has been attributed to the inattention of his aid, Major Giles. (21)

At a time when his revolutionary services were supposed to have been exaggerated by the partiality of his friends, he requested and obtained from Gen. Pickens the following letter and certificate, which placed his military merit in the battle of the Cowpens, and other occasions, beyond the reach of illiberal misrepresentation.

Long Cane, February 6th, 1797.

DEAR SIR,

Understanding that some attacks have been made on your military reputation, by some of your enemies in Georgia, it is with sincere pleasure and satisfaction, that I have it in my power to send you the enclosed certificate, having been witness to what is there declared.

Accept my sincere wishes for your happiness, and welfare, and am,

With much respect,

Dear Sir, Yours,

(Signed)

ANDREW PICKENS.

Gen. JAMES JACKSON.

direct them in such a manner, that they may tend to the advantage of the whole.

I am Gentlemen, with every sentiment of regard

Your obedient Servant

(Signed)

DANIEL MORGAN.

Camp on Pacolet, January 4th, 1781."

(21) I find this asserted in a Ms. sketch of Gen. Jackson's life.

p. 3.

“I hereby certify and declare, that Major, now General Jackson, and a party of Georgia militia, were under my command at the battle of the Cowpens, in South Carolina, on the 17th January, 1781, and that the said militia acquitted themselves equally well, with the other forces on that memorable day. Major Jackson acted as my Brigade Major, and by his example and firm *active* conduct greatly contributed to ANIMATE THE TROOPS, AND ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF THE DAY.

I further declare, that Gen. Morgan was highly satisfied with Major Jackson's conduct, and am certain that it must have been owing to accident, or mistake, that his name was not returned to Congress, as one of the officers who particularly signalized themselves at the COWPENS....The Major having in the face of the whole army run the utmost risk of his life, in seizing the Colors of the 71st British regiment, and afterwards introducing Major McArthur, commanding officer of the British infantry, as a prisoner of war to Gen. Morgan.

I further declare, that Major Jackson's conduct during a severe tour of duty in North Carolina, in the face of Lord Cornwallis's army, whilst the brigade I had the command of was attached to the light troops of General Greene's army, was such as merited, and gained not only my approbation, but that of Major General Greene, who determined from that period to give Major Jackson the command of a State Corps, which was soon after raised by direction of General Greene.

At the siege of Augusta Major Jackson's exertions, in the early period of the siege laid the ground

work for the reduction of that place. He led one of the advanced parties as Capt. Rudolph did another, at the storming of Grierson's fort, and had the command of a moving battery, at the time of the surrender of Fort George, in which he conducted with honor to himself and his country.

Certified this 6th February, 1797.

(Signed)

ANDREW PICKENS,

Brigadier General.

After the signal victory of the Cowpens, Morgan hastened with his trophies and prisoners to cross the Catawba.

The historian informs us, that the interposition of a flood of rain checked the eager pursuit of Cornwallis, and gave time to the American chief not only to place his trophies and prisoners beyond the reach of the enemy, but to indulge his soldiers with the short repose they had so nobly deserved. The act of God had thus retarded the rapid movements of the pursuing British; but the fords of the Catawba being at length practicable, Cornwallis made his preparations to force a passage.

The ford at Mr. Cowen's was the point to which his principal attention was directed. There the brave General Davidson and a body of North Carolina militia had posted themselves.

The fall of this commander was the signal for the dispersion of the militia. They fled, and were pursued by Tarleton, who obtaining information that a party of militia had collected at Torran's tavern, ten miles from Mr. Cowen's ford, moved off thither with his dragoons to surprize, and attack them.

The assault of the cavalry was immediate and impetuous....the militia assembled there were dispersed, and fifty of them slaughtered.

Major Jackson had crossed the Catawba with Morgan, and in this skirmish displayed great personal courage in many bold attempts to rally the broken ranks of the militia....The perils he encountered this day induced a belief that he had been slain, and he was accordingly reported to Gen. Morgan, as one of the killed.

His conduct in Gen. Pickens's brigade, in the whole of its severe duty in North Carolina has been already noticed in the certificate of that General. It met the approbation of General Greene, and the merit and gallantry which attracted the notice of that wise and illustrious commander, could have been of no ordinary complexion.

The battle of Guildford had completely reversed the destinies of the two armies. The British were left in possession of the field, but that was the only "positive good" (as it is expressed by the historian) derived from their victory....GREENE was prepared to renew the combat. Cornwallis had taken *his* measures to seek security in a retreat. Such was the victory of Guildford!

Disappointed in his expectation of bringing on another general action by a further *pursuit* of the *victorious* enemy, Greene, halted and deliberated, the result of which was a determination to re-commence hostilities in South-Carolina. This determination, bold and happily conceived, offered to Cornwallis the alternative of again following him, or of abandoning

the British garrisons in the back parts of South-Carolina and Georgia.

The resolution being formed of making South-Carolina the seat of war, Gen. Pickens, received orders to collect the militia of his brigade, and to intercept and destroy all convoys and supplies intended for the posts of *Ninety-six* and Augusta. But at THIS TIME Col. Baker had undertaken an expedition against the upper country of Georgia, upon intelligence of which Maj. Jackson, left South-Carolina, and repaired to the standard of that officer.

CHAPTER IV.

Arrives in Georgia....Re-crosses Savannah River, and assists in organizing a body of militia.... Keeps Baker's militia together in the vicinity of Augusta....Siege of Augusta....Appointed to the command of a Legion, and commandant of Augusta....Quells a revolt of his Legion....Surprizes the fort at Ogechee....Attacks and defeats the British militia, at Butler's house....Action with Campbell's cavalry....Commands the advance corps of General Wayne's army....Destroys one of the British Magazines....Spares a body of Tories....Action of the 23d May....Enters the City of Savannah.

AFTER engaging all the difficulties and dangers of a passage through an hostile country, Maj. Jackson arrived in Georgia, and was immediately ordered with the gallant Maj. Samuel Hammond to re-cross into South-Carolina, and to organize the militia on that side of the Savannah river. Two hundred and fifty men were collected by these officers, and the command given to col. Leroy Hammond. The British had now lost six of their Posts: and the next object of the Americans was the reduction of the garrisons of *Ninety-six*, and Augusta.

Lee, was ordered to proceed against Augusta, whilst the siege of *Ninety-six* was to be conducted under the immediate eye of General Greene.



and others in 1797

Some weeks however before this plan of operations had been adopted, col. Baker and his militia were in the vicinity of, and had invested the post at Augusta.... Worn out with fatigue....in want of almost every necessary of life....and despairing of any speedy re-inforcement from the army of General Greene, this body of militia began to give themselves up to despondency, and had formed the determination of abandoning their camp. Intelligence of this determination being conveyed to Major Jackson, he immediately hastened to the camp, and by his influence and address prevailed with the officers to postpone their intended secession until he had an opportunity of haranguing the soldiers.

On similar occasions he had been accustomed to address the militia on horseback, and this method he now adopted to re-animate the drooping spirits of his fellow soldiers.

The militia being assembled he proceeded to point out to them "the miseries they had endured.... the cruelties and insults inflicted on their families by Brown and Grierson....cruelties which their dispersion would only tend to renew. He told them, that vengeance was now within their reach, and to give up the opportunity of obtaining it, was giving up their pretensions to the character of brave soldiers....was sacrificing their feelings and duties, as citizens....as sons, fathers, and husbands.".... This plain and manly eloquence had the desired effect. The Major was saluted with the acclamations of this gallant band of Georgians, who unanimously

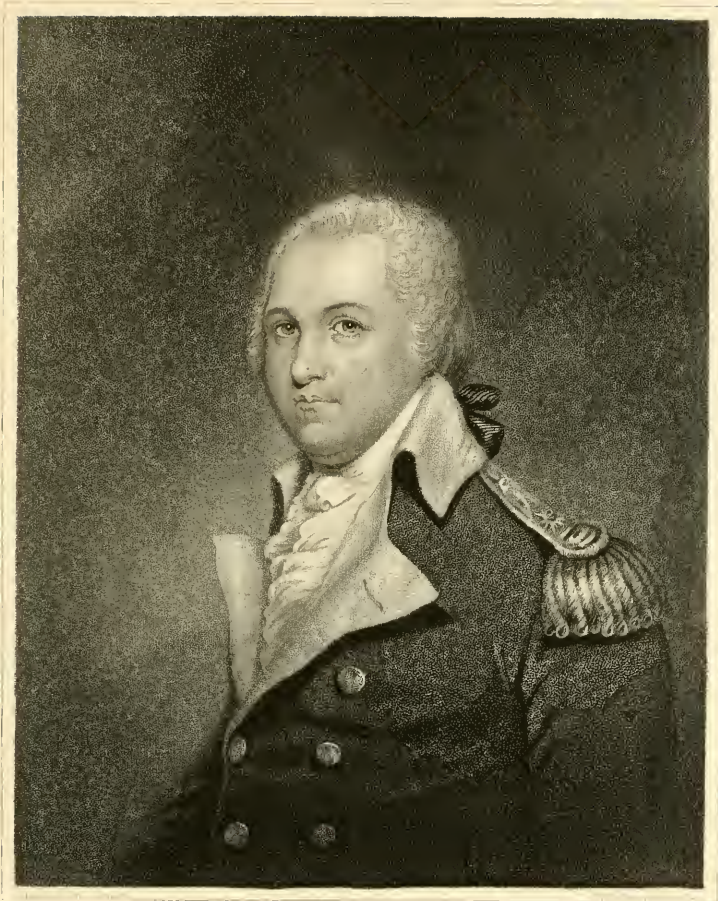
expressed a resolution to conquer or die on the ground they occupied.

Colonel Baker having resigned his command, it was assumed by Major Jackson, who commenced his operations against the garrison. He had prepared fascines mounted a nine pounder, and was ready to break ground before Grierson's fort, when Colonel Clarke and Picken's arrived, who resumed the command. Colonel Lee appeared a fortnight afterwards. It would seem therefore, that the siege was greatly advanced by the Georgians, before Lee in obedience to his orders had appeared before the place, the reduction of which was decidedly accelerated by the accession of the militia, kept together by the firmness and energy of Major Jackson.

The manuscript notes I have so often referred to, (and which are authenticated by the signatures of Generals Clarke and Twiggs) state, that if this body of militia had dispersed, "Brown would have been secure."

I shall leave the final adjustment of this point to the military men of that day. It is not my intention to detract from the fame of any of our heroes, which I do not suppose will suffer any diminution from the celebrity so deservedly acquired during this siege, by Major Jackson.

These facts have not occupied the attention of the historian; but if it has been deemed important to detail the operations of this siege, neither the brave Clarke, Major Jackson, or the Georgians should have been neglected and forgotten. The certificate of General Picken's attones however for



HENRY, THE

Henry Lee

historical omissions, so far as they relate to the particular services of Major Jackson. The General with great honor to his candor and liberality, admits that Major Jackson's exertions at the *early* period of the seige, laid the ground work for the reduction of the post; that he led one of the advance parties, as Captain Rudolph did another, at the storm of Grierson's fort; and that he had the command of a moving battery at the time of the surrender of fort George, which he conducted with honor to himself and country.

At this period agreeably to a promise made him, when attached to Pickens's brigade, he received from Gen. Greene, a Colonels commission for a Partisan Legion, which his well established popularity, influence and bravery enabled him to fill in the course of a few days. He was also appointed commandant of Augusta.... Rawdon had received a reinforcement and was in full march to the relief of Ninety-six. Greene receiving intelligence of his approach had at one time determined to meet, and give him battle.... and accordingly made exertions to draw together such aids of militia, as would enable him to execute that intention. The following orders were sent to Col. Jackson.

Camp before 96, January 17th, 1781.

DEAR SIR,

I wrote you the 15th, which I hope got safe to hand. Official information is just received, that yesterday morning the enemy were 12 miles above Orangeburgh on their way here; and Gen. Greene

has ordered me to write you to collect all the men you possibly can, and join the army without loss of time, or if it is more convenient to you to join Colonel Leroy Hammond, between this, and the Ridge. It is the Generals express orders, that you level the fortifications at Augusta, and he expects, that your own prudence will point out what is best to be done with the Artillery.

Your Ob't.

(Signed)

ANDREW PICKENS.

Lieut. Col. James Jackson.

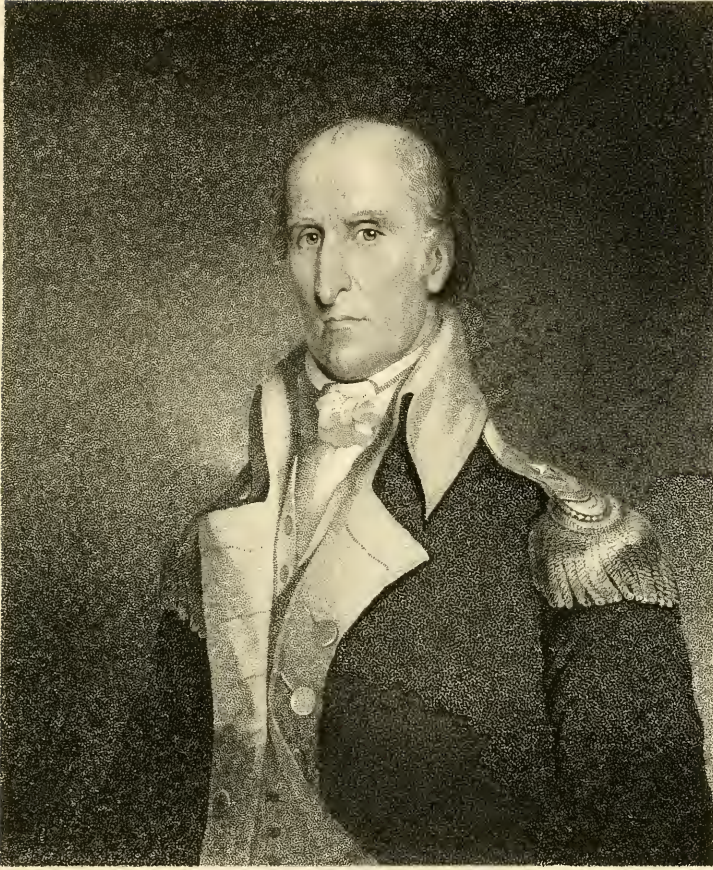
In obedience to these orders, Col. Jackson, made an effort to join the army, but a march of thirty miles convinced him that it was impracticable.

Cut off, and separated from the army, which had now retired from before Ninety-Six, Col. Jackson, was not dismayed by the alarming features of his situation. He formed the resolution, to return and keep possession of Augusta.

He afterwards marched into Wilkes county to succour the militia and inhabitants under Colonel Clarke, who were menaced by the garrison of Ninety-Six, and the tories of South-Carolina.

He maintained the Post at Augusta, until a Legislature was convened there in August 1781, when Nathan Brownson was elected Governor, and Col. Twiggs in consideration of his gallant services was at the same time appointed a Brigadier General.

In September, the General, with the Legion of Colonel Jackson in advance, took a position mid-



And^r. Pickens

way between Augusta and Savannah, from whence he was engaged in perpetual skirmishes with the enemy. Some short time previous to the march of the militia from Augusta, British emissaries had nearly effected a revolt in Colonel Jackson's Legion. Intelligence of these intrigues, were communicated to the Colonel by his servant David Davis, one of his dragoons, who by affecting an animosity against the Colonel, obtained a full knowledge of the intended mutiny.

Their plan was to bayonet the Colonel in his bed, which service was to have been performed by his own quarter guard . . . to murder the principal officers, and to conduct the Governor to the British in Savannah.

Not a moment was now to be lost . . . every thing depended upon an instantaneous boldness and decision.

The Colonel sent immediate orders to his dragoons not engaged in the conspiracy to repair to him. On their arrival, he ordered the infantry to turn out without arms, under the pretence of receiving cloathing, and in this situation he came in full charge upon them with his dragoons.

A court martial was convened and the ringleaders executed. (22) Such were the happy effects produced by this austere discipline, that ever afterwards the

(22) The honest Davis was not neglected. The state rewarded his fidelity with the gift of 500 acres of land, a horse, saddle and bridle.

greatest confidence was reposed in the fidelity and bravery of the infantry. (23)

In November 1781, General Twiggs detached Col. Jackson, with Stallings's dragoons, M'Kay's riflemen, and Carr's volunteer dragoons, to surprize the British fort at Ogeehee ferry. This service was performed with great address and secrecy.

The attack of the white house, was conducted with the same caution and success . . . a surrender almost immediately followed the appearance of the Americans : but the glory of this brilliant exploit was soon obscured by the rash and sanguinary act of Captain Carr, who killing one of the British officers after the surrender, the rest resumed their arms, and retiring to a fortified house, compelled the Colonel to relinquish his prize.

The next object which presented itself was the strong post of militia established at Butler's house under the command of a Captain Goldsmith.

This post was carried by assault, and the whole of the British party killed or captured.

A few hours after the reduction of this post, the battle was renewed with the whole force of Colonel Campbell's cavalry.

The situation of Col. Jackson was now critical and alarming.

No contest could have been more unequal. M'Kay's riflemen had left him to collect the spoils of their preceding victories ; and the defection of these men had now reduced his force to 49 of Stal-

(23) Ms. notes on Ramsay, p. 30.

lings and Carr's dragoons, and eight dismounted militia under the command of Captain William Greene. With this small force he had to combat with 85 British dragoons well accoutered and equipped. (24)

Greene's men were ordered to advance in front of a hammoc-thicket, which covered the dragoons.

This little band having received the first shock of the British horse, the dragoons of Jackson immediately charged and broke the centre of their column. The British cavalry fled and were pursued . . . but being stopped by a fence, they rallied and formed. The American dragoons slowly retired. The British did not think it prudent to re-follow them.

The enemy lost in killed and wounded 42 officers and privates, within *seven* of the whole force of the American dragoons; whose loss amounted to six killed and seven wounded and five taken prisoners, among whom was Captain Bugg of the Legion.

This action being represented to Gen. Greene, he wrote a letter to Governor Brownson, in which he applauds in high terms the gallantry of Colonel Jackson, and promised to communicate it to congress.

(24) For his arms and accoutrements, Colonel Jackson was entirely dependant upon the skill and industry of his own men. On the back of a letter addressed to him by Thomas Hamilton one of the officers of his infantry, he makes this comment, "I made all my own accoutrements, even to swords for my dragoons, caps, leather jackets, boots and spurs, and in short every article."

The advantages of this action were experienced after General Wayne came to Georgia, for the British cavalry were ever afterwards extremely cautious in their combats with the American dragoons. (25) Until the arrival of Wayne, (26) whom he was ordered to join at Ebenezer, after the services we have just mentioned, Colonel Jackson was advanced with his corps for the protection of the country low in Burke county. Having effected a junction with General Wayne, that General appointed him to the command of his advance corps. There were older officers who expected this command, it was therefore supposed that the hand of Gen. Greene was seen in this promotion, and that it was given to Col. Jackson in consequence of that General's particular request.

In this station he acquitted himself with his accustomed boldness and enterprize. His party was generally 12 miles in advance of the army, frequently skirmishing with the enemy, and sustaining all the hardships of want, nakedness and a desolated country. Yet these sufferings were borne without a murmur, by this intrepid officer, and his gallant legion. To the most daring attempts on the British parties, a vigilance and caution were united, which always prevented a surprize on any party of the Legion.

(25) The slaughter of Campbell's cavalry was effected entirely by the sword.

(26) Consult Ramsay's History of the Revolution in South-Carolina, p. 365, 2 vol.

Dr. Ramsay informs us, that three attempts were made to surprise an advance party of the Americans commanded by Lieut. Col. Jackson, but none of them succeeded. (27)

General Wayne always reposed the utmost confidence in his prudence and courage, and in assigning to him enterprizes of danger and of hazard, he generally had the satisfaction of perceiving that no situations could have been more gratifying to the military ardor of Col. Jackson.... In destroying the British magazines at the farm of Sir James Wright, he not only completely fulfilled the expectations of Gen. Wayne, but evinced a benevolence of character, and magnanimity of sentiment, which greatly enhanced the merit of this hazardous enterprize.

It is thus related in my manuscript notes on Dr. Ramsay's history of the revolution in South Carolina :

"General Wayne had formed the design of destroying the enemies magazines of provisions, on Hutchinson's island, and on Sir James Wright's plantation, adjoining the town of Savannah.... The former was to have been put into execution by Col. Barnwell of South Carolina, the latter by Colonel Jackson. Barnwell was surprised by the British regiments, and most of his men put to the bayonet. Jackson drove in the British pickets, and succeeded in performing the duty assigned to him in the face of the whole British army, and in his retreat

(27) Ramsay's History of South-Carolina, 2 vol. p. 366.

passed through the camp of 200 TORIES who were placed entirely at his mercy, but learning that they were labouring under the influence of disease he gave them their lives, and would not suffer them to be molested.

These acts of humanity in the midst of sanguinary contests, do great honor to the character of a brave soldier who will always spare, when no temptation is offered to his courage to destroy.

It was fortunate for these unhappy men that fortune had placed them at the mercy of the benevolent Jackson.

The character of GEORGIA TORIES, was at this time so despicable....so infamous....so strongly associated with the ideas of murder and of rapine, that no situation however forcibly on ordinary occasions, it might have been calculated to appeal to the feelings of the compassionate or humane, could have protected *them* from the implacable vengeance of the great body of the *Georgia Patriots*.

They had basely deserted the interests of liberty and their country. With their eyes open to all the oppressions of the British King, they had aided his myrmidons in ravaging the country, and in destroying the lives and property of their own brethren and fellow citizens, who were gallantly spilling their blood, on the altars of freedom and independence.

Wherever they went murder and pillage marked the footsteps of the TORIES. The valor of *robbers* may occasionally excite our admiration, but no bold exploit....no heroic deed....no daring enterprise, ever attoned for the political heresy of the *Georgia*

tories. The manly fronts of the patriots was always the signal of their dispersion and defeat.

That (28) timidity of character which compelled

(28) Lord Cornwallis always called the tories his timid friends vid. answer to the narrative of Sir Henry Clinton p. 15.

I am portraying here the general features of the character of the Georgia tories: but with very slight shades of distinction it will be found applicable to the tories of every state.

The following classification of them, in the *rebel* New-Jersey Journal (as it has been called by the British) of the 6th of April 1783, (with the exception of the second class,) involves in a small compass, every thing that can do them *honor*. Mutatis mutandis, these were the tories of Georgia, and of all the other *revolted colonies*.

"We have (says the animated address of the *rebel* New-Jersey Journal) not only had an open enemy to oppose in this conflict, but we have had numerous intestine enemies, who have been as vipers in our bosoms, and many traitors who have relinquished our cause, relinquished truth, virtue, and the rights of humanity, joined the enemy, and avowedly commenced the most bitter parricides of their country. These unprincipled wretches, these dregs and off scourings of human nature, have generally been distinguished by the appellation of *TORIES* and *REFUGEES*.

These miscreants may be divided into four classes.

1st. class. Poor *timed*, *unmanly*, and *poltroon* souls, who fled to the British to avoid militia duty and have done *them* as little service, as they would have done *us*.

2d. class. Those who have taken up arms against us, but who have never robbed, plundered, burnt houses, stole or kidnapped, nor were ever found with any such parties, but fought us in the open field.

3d. class. Felons and robbers, who under the protection and sanctity of a British army, have robbed the country, stole horses, cattle &c. plundered and burnt houses, and carried off to doleful prisons many of our good citizens.

4th class. All those leading important *villains*, who have ever been giving evil counsel against this country....advising the British, to lay the country perfectly waste by fire and sword: to spare neither age nor sex, who were called *WHIGS*: who have encouraged robbers, and raised money to encourage kidnappers: who have insulted our citizens when prisoners in New-York, and contributed their influence to the murdering them in dungeons and the polluted holds of ships.

Political Magazine, May, 1783, p. 320.

them to seek their safety under the British ægis, was displayed on all occasions which required the courage of men and soldiers. In cutting however the throats of unarmed men . . . in riffling women, or in playing off the dexterity of thieves, they enjoyed their full and undisputed share of glory, and renown.

When these miscreants were reposing at their ease, and revelling in plenty, under the holy protection of his Britannic Majesty . . . the hardy republican warriors were fighting the battles of their common country . . . were sustaining all the miseries of poverty and exile, corroded every moment by the dreadful reflection, that whatever British magnanimity might be tempted to spare, would not escape the detestable rapacity of the tories. They were therefore viewed as political pirates against whom every sword might be drawn and for whom there were no laws . . . no tribunals. Political hatred against these men raged to such a degree, that Georgia parole, and a thrust with the bayonet, were terms of equal import.

To save . . . or rather to spare the lives of two hundred of these men under such strong impressions of public hatred and indignation, required the operations of a mind above the ordinary apprehensions of popular prejudice and fanaticism. On this occasion therefore, we cannot withhold from Col. Jackson, the just tribute of our applause and admiration.

The battle of the 21st May, 1782, with Col. Brown

brought to a conclusion the revolutionary services of Col. Jackson. (29)

On this day Col. Jackson was ordered to take a position near the plantation of James Habersham. (30)

Here he was informed, that a troop of British dragoons were stationed at Ogeechee ferry. (31)

Having posted the main body of his detachment at Little Ogeechee bridge, he moved on with his horse, and a few mounted infantry, and fell in at Fox's with a large body of British militia, and regulars. These he charged....but being repulsed by a superiority of numbers, retreated in good order to join the main body at the bridge of Little Ogeechee. The British continued the pursuit until the Col. had reached his detachment, with which he made so prompt and judicious a manœuvre, as nearly to have taken prisoners the whole of the enemy's horse.

This skirmish was of great importance to Gen. Wayne, as by diminishing the force of the British cavalry, it tended to facilitate his victory over Col. Brown.

On the 12th of July, 1782, the British evacuated Savannah, and in consequence of the military and meritorious services (as it was expressed by Gen. Wayne) Colonel Jackson † was ordered to enter and

(29) Ram: Rev: in South-Carolina, 366, 367.

(30) Eight miles from Savannah, on the Ogeechee road.

(31) Eleven miles from Savannah.

† The following orders were issued on this occasion by Gen. Wayne.

“HEAD-QUARTERS, *Camp at Gibbons's, July 10th, 1782.*

“As the enemy may be expected daily to evacuate the town,

take possession of the town. The keys of the gates were delivered him by a committee of British officers, and he had the pleasure . . . the proud satisfaction, of being the first man who entered the town from whence in 1778, he and his brother soldiers and patriots had been driven and exiled.

This was a glorious day to the republican Jackson.

Always devoted to the principles of freedom, he had embarked in the American cause with the ardor of a brave soldier, and the determined zeal of an honest incorruptible patriot.

In the rapid survey we have taken of his military services, it cannot be denied but that he was useful and undaunted in all the stations he had the honor to occupy: and surely nothing is hazarded in the assertion, that in the subordinate spheres in which he was permitted to move, no patriot of the revolution was more enthusiastically sincere in his attachments to the interests of America, or encountered with more resolution the perils which encompassed the exertions of our revolutionary heroes. The defeat of Howe, was calculated to fix despair

the troops will take care, to be provided with a clean shift of linnen, and to make themselves as respectable as possible for the occasion. The officers are particularly called upon, to attend to this order, and see it executed in their respective corps. No followers of the army are to be permitted to enter the town, until the main body has marched in. Lieut. Col. JACKSON, in consideration of his severe and fatiguing service in the advance, is to receive the keys of Savannah, and is allowed to enter at the western gate, keeping a patrolle in town to apprehend stragglers, who may steal in with the hopes of plunder. Marauders may assure themselves, of the most severe, and exemplary punishment."

in the heart of every *patriotic* Georgian . . . particularly those to whom it offered the dreadful alternative of receiving protection, or joining the British standard. The one or the other branch of this alternative was embraced by men of weak nerves, who had not the resolution to wander in exile, or to sacrifice their property.

What had Jackson to expect from a steady course of consistent, and hardy patriotism? Did prospects favorable to the destinies of America then open themselves to the poor, abandoned soldier who had bravely drawn his sword in defence of her liberties? No! Men in elevated commands had every reason to suppose, that no great success could attend the operations of their talents . . . and every one however affluent he had been, began now to feel the pressure of poverty, or the want of personal influence.

If such men had grounds for despondency, how much ought we to admire that firmness of character, which rose superior to the influence of external circumstances, and in the face of their tyranny, to move on fearless and undaunted in the perilous and thorny paths of patriotism, and virtue. Such was the character of Jackson. With nothing more than a nominal rank, without a shilling in his pocket . . . without friends . . . and consoled by no prospects of better days, we still find the spirit of this intrepid soldier, rising above the wants of the man, and amidst every discouraging event, adding new fuel to his zeal, and ultimately leading him on to glory and to fame.

This spirit never would have bowed to British domination ; and the republican Jackson, had determined when he first drew his sword, never to sheath it as a subject of the king. If Britain had triumphed, he would have sought an assylum beyond the mountains, or in some section of the globe, where British tyranny could not have reached him.

He now saw every wish of his heart accomplished. He saw this nation free and independent, and as a simple citizen of the American republic, he would not have exchanged situations for all the proud titles, at the disposal of his Britannic majesty.

The courage of our people, aided by the smiles and protection of heaven, had crowned with victory the arms of the American heroes. From their blood had sprung up a form of government, surpassing in virtue . . . in wisdom and excellence, all the institutions of ancient or modern æra's. The sacred, natural, and imprescriptable rights of man had in all ages, and in all nations been trampled down by the well meant, yet ungovernable fanaticism of pure democracies, or by the execrable usurpations of despotic monarchies.

Even the boasted liberty of Englishmen rested on the principles of an arbitrary legislation, or the vague capricious prerogative of their king.

It was reserved for the Americans to subvert all the monstrous doctrines of oppression, and amidst the gloom of their forests, to plan and to carry into operation, the system of republican-representative-democracy . . . the only system which recognizes and

protects the natural rights of man . . . the only system which recognizes a political equality . . . the only system which places the sovereignty IN THE PEOPLE, and which confines the power and authority of their magistrates and legislators within the limits of fundamental constitutional principles.

Such was the system erected by the American people on the ruins of the monarchical oppression of the haughty government of Great Britain.

Col. Jackson had contributed his mite towards the establishment of this order of things, in the maintenance of which, and in the various civil appointments conferred on him by the gratitude and confidence of his fellow citizens, we will discover in every step of his political career, the ardent republican, honest man, and firm, incorruptible patriot.

CHAPTER V.

Donation of the General Assembly of Georgia for revolutionary services . . . Practices law . . . Elected a member of the legislature . . . Bribe offered by a tory . . . Appointed Colonel of militia, and Brigadier General . . . Refuses the office of Governor.

I PROPOSE now to follow Col. Jackson into the circle of his civil and political pursuits, in which he was engaged after the happy and glorious termination of the American Revolution. In all his public appointments, we would trace a fidelity, activity and zeal, highly honorable to the character of a servant of the people. I shall not, however, swell my narrative with facts and incidents which would only interest his family or particular friends, and not the public. I shall therefore endeavor, as much as my feelings will permit, to confine these memoirs within the limits of the principal and prominent political transactions in which the conduct and patriotism of General Jackson were most conspicuous. Poor at the commencement of the war, it cannot be supposed that its progress added much to the stock of his slender resources. On the contrary, the conclusion of the war, left him little more than the sword which he had so gallantly wielded in the battles of America. But the gratitude of his fellow citizens, did not suffer him to recommence a course of civil pursuits, entirely destitute.

In July, 1782, the General Assembly of Georgia presented him with a house and lot in Savannah, which was conveyed to him in the following complimentary and affectionate terms :

House of Assembly, July 30th, 1782.

“Whereas Lieut. Col. Jackson, has rendered many great and useful services to his country, for which he is entitled to the notice of the legislature :

Be it therefore Resolved, That the house which heretofore belonged to Mr. Tatnall, in Savannah, be granted to Col. Jackson, as a mark of the sense entertained by the legislature of his merits.”

Extract from the Minutes.

(Signed)

JOHN WILKINSON, C. G. A.

Col. Jackson had been educated as an attorney, and in that capacity he now soon acquired an extensive practice. Indeed, such was his industry and indefatigable devotion to the duties of his profession, that in a short time he had the satisfaction of finding himself in possession of a competency, which enabled him to turn his attention to pursuits more congenial to his ambition.

The turbulent and harassing scenes of the revolution had broken in upon, and frustrated any regular plan of professional education : but aided by the instructions of Mr. Walton, and endowed with a genius and capacity eminently adapted to the bold and manly discussions of the forum, Colonel Jackson soon rose to a respectable rank among his brethren of the bar, and always supported the reputation of an animated and able advocate.

The jurisprudence of Georgia, at that time (and as it ever has been) was a system extremely simplified.... unfettered by the phlegmatic forms of Westminster.... but resting on the general principles of the common and statute laws of England, so far as they were applicable to the relations of an infant republic, or were compatible with the local laws and customs.

Under such a system the talents of the *orator* were more distinguished, and perhaps they were more useful, than the dry.... the abstract.... the sophisticated reasoning of the scientific lawyer, sinking under the weight of British Reporters. Little was referred to the discretion of the court: the jury might decide on the law and the fact, and the happy faculty therefore, of convincing a jury, in the glowing language of eloquence and reason, opened the true highway to professional eminence and professional emolument. Without, then, that knowledge, which is acquired by a long, painful and laborious study of the law, (I mean the English law) we ought not to feel surprised, that so much success should have attended Col. Jackson's professional exertions. The bar, however, did not afford a sufficient latitude for the developement and exercise of those ardent propensities which were ever urging him on to mount the steps of the political ladder.

His fellow citizens elected him a member of the legislature, in which station he magnanimously threw aside his revolutionary animosity against some of the tories, who were greatly indebted to him for his aid,

in releasing them from the penalties of the confiscation acts. Col. Jackson held these men in detestation, but he saw them humbled in the dust, and to trample on them . . . to reject their importunate supplications for an admission to the enjoyment of these privileges which their victorious countrymen had purchased with their blood . . . to spurn them away under these circumstances, did not, in the opinion of Jackson, comport with the virtuous moderation of a *republican*, whose principles compel him to shew mercy to the fallen and penitent.

The anxiety of some of the tories to throw themselves once more into the arms of their patriotic countrymen, was perfectly astonishing, when we reflect on their bitter hostility to the revolution.

From one, who had made himself sufficiently conspicuous to be placed upon one of the confiscation acts, Col. Jackson was honored with the following letter :

East Florida, October 6th, 1783.

“HONORABLE SIR,

I wrote you a letter last month, humbly requesting you to draw me a petition, and speaking to it, which I still beg you to do. I have been ordered out of the state since: but would wish to return to my allegiance and my children, as I have been ruined by the instigation of the British, and am now sent among them, where I am sorry to be, or go further with them.

I mentioned in my last letter I would give you *one tract of land*, out of two, either on Savannah

river, or at my mill-seat on Black creek, if you get me off the bill of attainder ; but I since considered, if you will trouble yourself in my behalf to draw me a special petition, and make for me such friends, as will enable me to settle in that county, a citizen, I will give you *both* these *tracts of land*, or whatever they fetch me when sold.

I also wrote you, I would send you a copy of some certificates I took from my old neighbors, which I omitted. I have now sent them enclosed here, and if the form does not suit, please to draw a form for the former neighbors to subscribe to, and send it to my son, Philip Dell, jun. at Mr. W. Colson's, near the mouth of Briar creek, where it will be signed by some of the most substantial of American citizens.

It is well known I never raised arms against the Americans, although I have been often plundered by them, but rested as peaceably as I could. I took the commission of the peace to prevent my bearing arms, and to keep the *violent rogues* from plundering the Americans who had taken protection of the British.

I am not about to settle in Florida, nor do I like to go further with the British, but hope you will enable me to return home. If I should be taken off the bill, pray write me as soon as possible, after being safe to return.

I now stop at Cedar Point, in a camp, where you may write me, by any boat going to St. John's, on said water course, seven miles from St. John's bluff. On a strict enquiry you will find me an hon-

est, peaceable man. What my son has done I am not to answer for. So no more than my compliments :

And am with due regard, Sir,

Your most ob't serv't at command,

(Signed)

PHILIP DELL.

This cunning tory had entirely mistaken his man. His infamous proposition was heard by Col. Jackson with that scorn and indignation which it merited : who would have listened with patience to the poor suppliant, but whose integrity was not to be shaken by the *bribe* of the rich scoundrel.

In 1784, Mr. Jackson was appointed Colonel of the Chatham county, or first regiment of Georgia militia. John Houstoun was then Governor of the state of Georgia.

In 1786, under the administration of the patriotic Edward Telfair, he received the commission of Brigadier General ; and in the course of the same year was admitted an honorary member of the Georgia Cincinnati Society. (32)

In this rapid succession did honors follow the revolutionary merit and patriotism of *Col. Jackson*.

(32) CINCINNATI SOCIETY, *Savannah, in Georgia, Oct. 19th, 1786.*

For the faithful and military services of Brigadier General James Jackson, who distinguished himself during the revolution, the Society are disposed to shew him every mark of their friendship and respect :

Therefore Resolved, nem: con : That he be admitted an honorary member of this Society.

The Society then proceeded to the election, when they unanimously elected Brigadier General Jackson an honorary member of the Cincinnati Society, in the State of Georgia.

A true extract from the Minutes.

(Signed)

LACHLAN MCINTOSH, *President.*

(Signed)

JOHN HABERSHAM, *Sec. C. S. of Georgia.*

All classes of men were anxious to evince their attachment to his person, and to confer upon him those rewards which are so peculiarly gratifying to the heart of a soldier and a patriot.

Among those marks of respect which were exhibited towards him, none can be more distinguished than his unanimous admission into the Georgia Cincinnati Society. The name of the venerable General Lachlan McIntosh, who was then President of that institution, is dear to the recollection of every American patriot, and to be enrolled with *his* approbation among the heroes of the line, is conclusive evidence of the high estimation in which the revolutionary services of Gen. Jackson were held.

In January, 1788, he was elected Governor of the state of Georgia, which appointment was announced to him in the following official letter from the Speaker of the House of Assembly.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, *Augusta,*
January 7th, 1788.

SIR,

I have the honor to inform you that you are elected Governor of this state. Your appointment by a large majority of the House evinces the great confidence which the representatives of the people repose in you. The critical posture of our affairs, renders it peculiarly necessary, that the chief magistracy of this state should be filled by a person of experience and APPROVED PATRIOTISM.

Your repeated exertions in the service of your country leave me no room to doubt, that you will



Lach. M. Antosh

accept the office which has been thus honorably conferred upon you ; and that you will discharge the duties of this important trust in such manner as will give general satisfaction.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient humble servant,

N. BROWNSON, *Speaker.*

His Honor JAMES JACKSON, Esq.

Governor of the State of Georgia, in Savannah.

To the astonishment of his friends, who believed him to be influenced by an ambition not easily satiated with public honors, General Jackson modestly refused an office which he did not think his age or experience entitled him to. He confessed with great candor, that such an office was too weighty for his shoulders....and that no honest patriot would assume the duties of an appointment which he had not the talents to discharge. His object was to be useful to the people, and that therefore, he would avoid the responsibility of any station in which his zeal, and not his knowledge, would be most conspicuous.

This was the honest determination of a true republican. He did not solicit the office....He did not expect it. It was the voluntary tender of a body of men, who respected his virtue, and reposed confidence in his patriotism. In the wide range of their observation, Jackson appeared to them as the worthiest citizen they could select to take charge of the government of the republic.

His rejection of an appointment conferred upon him under such circumstances, was the noble effort

of an honest heart, sacrificing personal aggrandisement on the altar of the public good . . . Such will, or ought ever to be the conduct of an independent and orthodox republican. It is this kind of magnanimity and disinterestedness which contradistinguishes his principles from the tenets of the monarchist . . . which render the one, the subject of his virtues, the other, the vassal of his passions.

Ne quicquam popula bibulas donaveris aures

Respue quod non es.

Penius, Sat: 4 v: 50.

convey sterling admonitions to the sound patriot.

APPENDIX.

EULOGIUM.

*Delivered in Savannah, in February, 1806, by the
Author of this work.*

IT is announced to us, that on the 19th day of the last month, departed this life, at the City of Washington, after a long and painful illness, Major General JAMES JACKSON, one of our Senators in the Congress of the United States Amidst the respectable testimonies of respect which have been paid to his memory, I have been honored with a request to pronounce the eulogy which the merits the services and virtues of the deceased entitle him to have recorded, as a just tribute offered up to his past fame, and a security for the recollections of his fellow-citizens.

I hope I shall be able to deliver his panegyric without any deviations from the plain principles of truth and candor.

As the distinguished citizen, whose shade we are now invoking, was incapable of speaking a language which was not founded on the sincerity of conviction, or which did not flow in a direct course from the breast ; neither will I, his humble eulogist, trespass one moment on your indulgence to descant upon topics which have no relation to his real virtues ; nor will I attempt to attribute traits of character

to him which his soul would falsify if it could hover over my head at this moment and assume the attribute of speech. I shall not therefore, swell the panegyric beyond its natural limits, lest in its inundations I bring confusion on myself.... It is not necessary to deal in fiction on this occasion.... the character of General Jackson stands too high.... it is too well known by the people of the United States to require either the aid of exaggeration, or the polish of a base flattery. He loved truth and fair dealing for their own sakes, and intuitively detested their opposites.

He was a plain hearted republican, whose tongue knew no guile.... whose heart never palpitated with fear, or planned dishonesty.

The most violent personal resentments will always result from the collisions of faction, and men otherwise virtuous, but under the influence of those resentments, will but too often give a currency to political calumnies, and a sanction to measures which ought to be rejected as dishonorable, and condemned as inconsistent with a pure and disinterested love of country. General Jackson has been engaged in scenes which called forth all the rancorous feelings of the heart, and which have given a permanency to feuds which even the grave itself does not cover and annihilate.... feuds which will expire only with the liberties and happiness of this nation. These feuds did not, however, produce all their ordinary effects upon him. Their bitterest spirit has never been able to snatch from the public opinion the impression of his honesty and inflexible

integrity. He has sustained the character of an honest man amidst the highest effervescences of party feeling even at times when calumny itself usurped the dominion of sacred truth, and sounded her voice in the temples of God.

The loss of such a character as this, from the humble walks of a private station, (for an honest man is the noblest work of God) is to be most sincerely and deeply regretted by a virtuous and enlightened community how loud then ought the lamentations of a nation to be in being deprived of such a man, who filled the highest political stations who carried his personal honesty into the circle of his political engagements who discharged his public duties by the scale of his individual rectitude.

He despised the machiavelian policy which establishes two kinds of honesty, one for the man, the other for the statesman.

His private and political honesty were *homo genivus*, participated in the same principles or nature.

He respected the *arcana* of state and the mysteries of the cabinet, no further than they were compatible with the public good, or came within the range of his opinions of political morality.

He always dared to speak what he thought, and never deviated from a line of conduct once adopted, from any apprehensions for himself. He was steady, persevering and immovable in the prosecution of his measures not to be swerved from them by the virulence of censure, or the danger of

formidable hatreds. If he believed he was right he would go on.

If General Jackson had been accessible to corruption there was a period when he could have commanded an affluence beyond a parallel in this nation . . . and what may appear to many inexplicable, he might have remained in possession of his political ascendancy. Such was the peculiar combination of qualities which concentrated themselves in the character of this celebrated citizen. But gold could not tempt him from his duty . . . the estates he had left behind have been acquired by testamentary generosity, or the efforts of industry, not unaccompanied by the prudential cautions of economy. I doubt whether his devotion to public duties, and the interests of his fellow-citizens, has superseded the necessity on the part of his sons to toil as he did. If their patrimony is not as great, however, as it could have been, let the integrity and civic virtues of their father console them for the disappointment. Let them recollect, that they are not the descendants of an unprincipled Satrap, but the honorable offspring of a PATRIOT CITIZEN. Let them recollect, and each of my young countrymen, that he has opened a track for them which if followed with honor and firmness will reward them with fame and competency, not with luxury and insolence.

The character and principles of General Jackson are marked with a firmness and consistency rarely discoverable in the actions of statesmen and seldom compatible with that species of ambition which

rests for support upon its own nature and energies in opposition to the obstructions which fortune and birth have thrown in the way of its ultimate objects.

The political principles of the deceased in no instance veered with circumstances . . . they were above the control of circumstances : for as they were the result of reason, reflection and comparison, they neither changed with a change of men and measures, or floated with the tides of political relations. At the dawn of 1776, and for the whole period of the revolutionary struggles with Great-Britain, he bravely, and to the utmost of his abilities contended for the rights of liberty and independence of this country, and the distance of nearly thirty years did not cool the ardor of his '76 principles.

He died in 1806, the unalterable, the fervid patriot of 1776 . . . He drew his last breath at a moment when the situation of this country demanded all his zeal. If he had lived he would have stood in the lists of those patriots who will never sacrifice the legal rights of their country at the shrine of ignoble peace. If I mistake not, no temporary inconveniences to commercial profit, no temporary diminution of the revenue of the United States, would have obtained his assent to any measures which indirectly acknowledged the imbecility of their government, or the pusillanimity of their people. The United States of America can support their rights, and at this crisis he would have said so.

General Jackson believed that the constitution of

the United States was the standard, under which our people ought to rally in the hour of danger and alarm: he believed that its principles combined all the energies necessary for *defensive* or *offensive* operations. He considered the federal compact as the palladium of American liberty, and venerated it for the irrefragible refutations it had given to the opinions of foreign politicians, that the republican form of government was not suited to a wide extent of country, and that it could not protect itself from external aggressions. He venerated the constitution of the United States, because it consecrated the only form of government, which his reason could assent to.

General Jackson was born an Englishman, but his heart was American. If every native feels the same affection for this country that he did, it is able to protect itself against all attempts on its liberties. The *amor vincit patriæ*, of theorists would then be confirmed, by the operation of practical virtues. He offers a noble example to naturalized citizens, who have solemnly pledged themselves to support the principles of this government. The love of native soil is natural, and it is amiable; but I hope that local attachment will not prevent an honorable discharge of duty, when the dangers and interests of this country demand the services and zeal of my adopted countrymen. They will no doubt do their duty. Having discharged it they will meet the reward which it is in the power of a free people to bestow: and like General Jackson, they will afford this useful lesson to the world, that men can be found in the

bosom of this rising republic who know and feel no other obligations than those which result from honor and abstract patriotism . . . I mean the patriotism of principle, not of soil. General Jackson was not divested of ambition; but his ambition carried with it no treachery. It was not an ambition which could be soothed by gew-gaws and ribbands.

The distinctions of aristocracy could never have gratified it. It was an ambition, which concentrated itself in a love of the people, and which was unwilling to relinquish any favors within their gift. It was an ambition which eagerly collected all those honors which form the wreath of civic virtue. Is ambition of this kind reprehensible? Is it dangerous to American liberty? I hope not. I believe that it is not. I hope the same ambition will elevate to a proud rank, every citizen of this nation who is influenced by it, and can dignify it with virtue and talents. "Though the pure consciousness of worthy actions, abstracted from the views of popular applause, be to a generous mind an ample reward, yet the desire of distinction was doubtless implanted in our natures as an additional incentive to exert ourselves in virtuous excellence."

General Jackson had his frailties and imperfections in common with other men. He suffered perhaps the impetuosity of his temper to hurry him into extremes, too often and unnecessarily. Believing that his political tenets were such which every citizen ought to feel, he was impatient under con-

traditions, and apparently intollerant to his opponents. He did not perhaps take sufficient pains to convince an adversary, or to conciliate his good opinion. His private intercourse was in a great measure regulated by a sympathy of political feeling. But tho' he permitted occasional triumphs of warmth over his real and natural benevolence of character, and though unbending and impetuous, yet no man possessed a stronger sensibility ; it was a chord which vibrated on the slightest touch. When made sensible of an error, no man could evince a more lively sense of regret, or a more ready disposition to expiate it. The smallest advances to reconciliation, buried his resentments. His enmities were open and conducted with candor ; his enemies were always apprized of his points of attack. But if he was warm in his resentments, he was no less sincere, fervid and disinterested in his friendships. He possessed the social virtues in an eminent degree ; he was the most agreeable of companions, when all other feelings were insulated, save those which sprung out of his natural good humor and great flow of spirits.

In private life, the manners and virtues of the general were of an amiable complexion. He was indeed an affectionate father and husband ; and a humane master. In all these relations, and in the discharge of the duties incidental to them, he is worthy of the strictest imitation.

I hope I am not trespassing upon your patience. I feel that my arrangement is desultory and prolix. I might have said much less, and with more method.

A subject however has been assigned me, in which it is difficult to connect the coolness of method with those generous emotions which must animate every heart in reciting the virtues of the dead. I hope I have given no false colorings to, or exaggerated the merits of my departed friend. I have said of my friend: but he was the friend of the American People; he was the sincere friend of the people of Georgia. I have it from himself to say....it is written with his own hand, that he particularly loved the people of Georgia; that it was his favorite wish to be thought their father; that he had given up fortune....family, and the most lucrative pursuits.... had made all the sacrifices, to perform only what he conceived to be his duty to the people of Georgia: and that if after death his heart could be opened, Georgia would be legibly read there. This he said and wrote two years ago, when he thought himself on the margin of the grave. But who will doubt his attachment for the people of Georgia upon a principle of personal affection? Are evidences required of this attachment? They are discoverable in every action of his public conduct. Look into the records of the state: he will be there found the enemy....the immoveable, unconquerable enemy of every species of fraud, monopoly and speculation, which levelled their baneful influence at the best interests and happiness of her citizens and their posterity. I will not dwell with emphasis on this subject. I am apprehensive of awakening feelings, which ought to slumber on this occasion, and which

I hope have been buried in the same grave with his body.

I am more solicitous to impress upon the minds of all men ; of all parties, that we have lost a citizen who was a patriot from principle ; and whose particular affections were fixed on the people of Georgia. Georgians you have lost one of your best friends ; a friend who never hesitated to jeopardize his life ; or sacrifice his fortune in your service. He walked with you through the fire of an arduous revolution, and if God had spared him, was still ready to assert the rights of yourselves and your children against any succeeding tyranny. I see many of his friends here who have grown grey with him in the practice of an uniform patriotism. The respectable and venerable General McIntosh, went to the bosom of Washington a short time before him ; and the course of nature is bringing rapidly on, that awful period, which will number with the dead the remaining phalanx of the '76 heroes. I see some in this assembly ; soldiers of that memorable time, whose span cannot be protracted many years : but they will die with the pleasing consolation of leaving their memory and their honor in the possession of a grateful people, who will ever respect and venerate the one, and endeavor to imitate the other. The grave of the Patriot of 1776, inculcates terrible lessons to the enemies of freedom : it teaches that *bravery*, supported by justice and animated by the hopes of liberty and independence, will ultimately meet the fostering protection of a beneficent providence ; and

that it cannot be baffled by the strength of tyrants. The grave of the patriot of 1776, inculcates further lessons.... it teaches the necessity of unanimity ; it teaches us to make all those sacrifices which ordinarily attach us to life ; to bear with firmness every privation, in support of our natural rights as men, or the principles of a free government. Thus death itself does not deprive us of our revolutionary hero ; we listen to and hear his voice through the cold marble of the tomb.

Washington is physically no more, but his shade is ever present among us ; it is ever speaking an audible language ; it encompasses the hearts of his countrymen, and as long as honesty is respected, it will continue to controul them by the rules of public virtue and moral rectitude. Let the foreign or domestic Cæsar, menace an attack on the constitution and liberties of this nation ; the shade of Washington will present itself, and hurl ruin and confusion on the usurper. It is that great moral cause, which of itself on such an event, would carry with it all the energies of a physical host ; and communicate the pangs of a whip of scorpions.

Learn from this example my fellow-citizens, the effects of great and benevolent actions, and endeavor to do your duty to yourselves and posterity.

I have some memoirs before me which go into a detail of the revolutionary exploits of General Jackson. I cannot detain you longer on this occasion by an enumeration of them. They shall speedily be submitted to the public, as well as accounts of his public conduct in the various civil stations filled by

him since the organization of the federal government. There will be necessarily connected in a production of this kind, a history of the revolution as it was confined to this state, and a general view of the administration of the general government. This I will undertake to perform.

I shall for the present barely mention, that no officer moving in the limited spheres of command which was given him at different periods of the war, could have performed his duty better . . . with more zeal, fidelity and firmness.

In the celebrated action of the Cowpens, he acted as aid to General Pickens, and brigade-major to the Carolina and Georgia militia. In that action he took the swords of several officers, and among them the sword of Major McArthur, the commander of the British infantry, and delivered that officer to General Morgan; and received the thanks of the General for his conduct on the field of battle. This is one; but not the most important, among those achievements, which distinguished the military life of the deceased. It is only mentioned as a general illustration of his ardor, during the revolutionary contest.

General Jackson in his life time, had to stem the torrent of much personal animosity. I hope that his memory has now no resentments to contend with. I hope they will be permitted to moulder with his body there in the dust. The despotism of France, and the recent encroachments of Britain on our independency and legal rights, have annihilated the prejudices that once divided our citizens between those rival powers.

The true American, has now no particular predilections for either of those nations ; and with the fall of those predilections, have also expired many of those diversities which characterised the sects of democratic and federal republicans. In a common cause the ebullitions of party spirit have subsided. I hope then that this spirit will not be revived to disturb the ashes of my friend. The attendance of many in this assembly does honor to their magnanimity, and convince me, that, that spirit will not be revived.

The respectability of this assembly and the dignity of the pageant, offer up nothing more than a just tribute to the memory of the deceased. This country has lost one of its sincerest and best patriots, and therefore every ceremony evincive of regret for such an event, is but the performance of a duty which a generous people are ever willing to impose upon themselves.

I give you my thanks my fellow-citizens for your patience and respectful attention ; and solicit your pardon, for the time I have trespassed upon.

THE LIFE
OF
GOV. JAMES JACKSON,
OF GEORGIA,

As Portrayed in the National Portrait Gallery, Absalom H.
Chappell's Miscellanies of Georgia, Gov. Gilmer's
Georgians, and Others.

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY OF 1836,
VOLUME III.

General James Jackson was born in the county of Devon, in England, on the 21st of September, in the year 1757. From his father of the same name, a man of respectable connections, honest character, and stern republican principles, he inherited an ardent devotion to liberty, which strongly manifested itself at a very early age. King, Lords, and Commons, with all the boasted glory and grandeur of Britain, had no charms for his unyielding and buoyant spirit, which already aspired at equality, and saw the prospect of gratification in the far distant regions of America. In 1772, at the instance of John Wreath, a leading Whig in Georgia, the parental sanction was given to his abandonment of the home of his ancestors. With that gentleman he repaired to Savannah, and began to read law in the office of Samuel Farley, an eminent

attorney, carrying on at the same time, with very limited advantages, the course of education commenced in England. His forensic and common studies were soon interrupted.

In 1775, he warmly espoused the cause of freedom; and is believed to have been among the first lads of his age who shouldered a musket in hostility to the the tyranny of Britain. He first distinguished himself when Commodore Barclay, and Majors Maitland and Grant came in force, in 1776, against Savannah, being one of a party of nine, who, under command of Captain Bowen, after the detention of a flag sent by the patriots, and the discharge of a volley by the enemy, boarded and set fire to a merchant vessel, and drifted against and caused the precipitate abandonment of others held by British troops, in the river immediately opposite the town. In the same year, he was a volunteer in an attack, conducted by Colonel Baker, upon Tybee Island, where some houses were occupied by armed men from hostile vessels of war that lay in the river, and drew fresh supplies from herds of cattle upon it. The buildings were destroyed, and the enemy driven to their ship. For gallant conduct on this occasion, he was honored with the thanks of Governor Bulloch. Public regard was now so strongly attracted to the youthful soldier, that a company of light infantry was organized and placed under his orders. He continued to direct it until the fatal Florida expedition under General Howe, when he resigned, and had conferred upon him the appointment of brigade-major of the Georgia militia. In this capacity, he was in many skirmishes with the

enemy, and then advancing towards Savannah from the south; particularly in one in which the brave General Scriven was killed, and in which he received a wound in the ankle. After the fall of Savannah, on the 29th of December, 1778, in the defense of which he had participated against the superior forces of Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, the Georgians were reduced to the utmost misery. Their property was confiscated, their families were brought to poverty, their most venerable citizens were crowded on board of prison ships, and cruelties were inflicted unbecoming the most barbarous foe. The greater number of the State troops and organized militia having been, in the assault, killed or taken prisoners, and there being no longer a field in Georgia for his exertions, Major Jackson crossed the Savannah river, to aid the Whigs of Carolina. Barefoot and penniless, friendless and unknown, but resolute and sanguine, he joined General Moultrie's command, marching as a common soldier, and active in the engagements that ensued.

It was his singular misfortune before he had reached the army, so wretched was his appearance, to have his character as an American officer denied, to be apprehended as a spy by a party of Whigs whom he went to succor, condemned to execution, and saved from the gibbet only by the timely arrival of Peter De-veaux, a gentleman of reputation, afterwards a member of the executive council of Georgia.

In October, 1779, Major Jackson served again in Georgia, in the unsuccessful assault upon Savannah by General Lincoln and Count d'Estaing. In March, 1780, he, unhappily, was the antagonist of Lieuten-

ant-Governor Wells in a duel, which terminated fatally to the latter gentleman.

The Major was shot through both knees; and confined by his wounds for months, refusing amputation, and abandoned by his surgeons, was prevented from taking part in the military operations of the spring of 1780. Here, justice to the Major requires the declaration that although he was forced into this difficulty by a gross personal indignity, which his honor as an officer, and the spirit of the period, compelled him to resent, and although he had done nothing wherewith to reproach himself, yet he ever afterwards deeply lamented the dreadful catastrophe. He was no duellist from principle: he abhorred the practice. It was his lot on several other occasions in subsequent life to be similarly involved; but he went always to the place of contest without preparation, with no vindictive passion, confiding in the rectitude of his cause, and convinced that duty to his country demanded the exposure of his person.

In August, 1780, Major Jackson repaired to Colonel Elijah Clarke's camp of Georgians. He was in the celebrated battle of Blackstocks, under General Sumter, in South Carolina. When the gallant Sumter was wounded, the command devolved upon Colonel Twiggs, of Georgia, the senior officer present. At the close of the encounter, the Major was despatched with a body of cavalry in persuit of Colonel Tarleton, whom he vigorously pressed, and from whom he captured and brought off thirty horses. No disparagement of the veteran Sumter, nor of the patriotic sons of Carolina, is intended: true valor is never en-

vious of the military laurels of others: let it therefore be as readily conceded, as it is firmly insisted that the conduct of the Georgians in that memorable engagement contributed greatly to the success of the day. History has given them but little credit here; and history has been equally unjust to them, when treating of many other events in which their valor was signalized. Indeed, throughout the war, in the three most southern States they were always found in scenes of the greatest peril, ever prompt to hazard their lives for the general good. Georgia rightfully boasts of many brilliant and valiant names—they should be rescued from oblivion: especially should the memories of Twiggs and of Clarke be respected by one who would faithfully recount the story of the revolution. They were among the bravest of the brave—officers of skill and unceasing enterprise, to whom American liberty is indebted for a thousand noble deeds. Such was the confidence reposed in Major Jackson at this time, that after the battle of Long-cane, in which Colonel Clarke was disabled, the major more than once, saved his command from total dispersion. Of impassioned eloquence and the highest powers of declamation, he frequently addressed the troops, setting before them in glowing terms the wrongs of their country, and arousing them to acts of patriotic effort. The affection of the Georgians for his person was, we are assured, also felt by the Carolinians, who were well pleased when he was in charge of parties, or acted as he often did, as Major of the brigade to the united combatants of the two States.

Early in 1781, General Pickens, who properly con-

ceived himself justified by Lord Cornwallis's proclamation, and by British outrage in breaking his parole, was intrusted with the command of the Carolina and Georgia militia attached to General Morgan's army. Major Jackson was his brigade-major. Is it too late for a magnanimous and grateful people to acknowledge meritorious service, although that service may not heretofore have been fully recorded by the annalist? May not the author of this memoir, acutely feeling for the honor of his native state, and justly alive to the reputation of Major Jackson, confidently hope, that even now, an achievement of high chivalry may be admitted, if satisfactory evidence be adduced? It is asserted, then, upon the authority of General Pickens, whose certificate, dated 6th February, 1787, is in the writer's possession, which was published in the gazettes of the South at a period when Major, then General Jackson's enemies were striving to overthrow him; which was given voluntarily, and never contradicted; published, too, during the lives of General Pickens, and of the principal continental and militia officers who fought at the Cowpens: that Major Jackson, "by his example, and firm, active conduct" did much "to animate the troops, and insure the success" of the Americans; that "it was owing to accident or mistake that his name was not returned to Congress, as one of the officers who particularly signalized themselves at the Cowpens"; and that "the major, in the face of the whole army, ran the utmost risk of his life in seizing the colors of the 71st British regiment, and afterwards introducing Major M'Arthur, commanding officer of the British infantry, as a pris-

oner of war to General Morgan." After this the major was at the crossing of the Catawba by Lord Cornwallis. He narrowly escaped the sabres of Tarlton, while endeavoring to rally and form the discomfited militia surprised by that officer at Tennant's tavern. He was with General Pickens and Colonel Lee, when Pyle's corps was destroyed on Haw river. It was his fortune to be engaged frequently and conspicuously, and to gain the approbation of General Greene, to whom he was introduced at Salisbury by General Morgan; and who then determined to take place under his direction a legionary corps, as soon as one could be raised for the service of Georgia.

Colonel Baker having undertaken an expedition against Augusta, Major Jackson considered it his duty to abandon the main southern army, and return to the State whose commission he bore. The intervening country was almost wholly hostile: but he surmounted every difficulty, joined Baker, and was immediately ordered to recross the Savannah, and embody a force in Carolina. Having succeeded in collecting 250 men, who were committed to the charge of Colonel Hammond, he returned to the camp from which Colonel Baker in disgust had retired. Colonel Williamson who succeeded Baker, had also withdrawn. General Pickens and Colonel Lee were yet with General Greene. This was the hour on which depended the future capture of Augusta. Had the Georgians then abandoned the field, Colonel Brown, the British commander, might have been secured against all future enterprise. The major assumed the command. His talent for extemporaneous elocution was again called

into exercise. He, on horse-back, depicted to the dispirited patriots "the miseries they had endured, and the cruelties that had been perpetrated by Brown and Grierson; cruelties which their dispersion would only tend to renew. That vengeance was within their reach, that to give up the opportunity of obtaining it, was giving up their pretensions to the character of good soldiers; was sacrificing their feelings and duties as citizens, sons, fathers, and husbands." A resolution to conquer, or die, was proclaimed by the brave men whom he addressed. Operations were forthwith commenced anew, against the garrison. The major had prepared fascines, mounted a nine-pounder, and was ready to break ground against Grierson's fort, when Colonel Clarke arriving superseded him. General Pickens and Colonel Lee appeared afterwards, and Augusta fell. The certificate by General Pickens, to which reference has already been made, also makes known that at Augusta "Major Jackson's exertions in the early period of the siege, laid the groundwork for the reduction of that place. He led one of the advanced parties, as Captain Rudolph did another, at the storming of Grierson's Fort; and had the command of a moving battery at the time of the surrender of Fort George, in which he conducted with honor to himself and his country."

In conformity with his resolution, taken during the campaign in North Carolina, General Greene now gave to Major Jackson a commission for a partisan legion, confirmed by Congress in 1781. This he enlisted in a few days. Appointed commandant at Augusta, he maintained his post, notwithstanding

Lord Rawdon's march, General Greene's retreat from Ninety-six, his being entirely separated from the American forces, and encompassed by hostile troops. A more dangerous enemy than the British bayonet, arose in the heart of his camp. Treason presented its front, excited by emissaries from Savannah. His infantry became disaffected, and his own quarter-guard, with others, were engaged to murder the Colonel in his bed, bayonet the principal officers, and, seizing the Governor of Georgia, conduct him a prisoner to the enemy.

Information of this plot was given to Colonel Jackson by an honest dragoon. His cavalry was forthwith drawn out, the infantry paraded without arms, a charge upon them made by the dragoons, and the ring-leaders arrested, tried, condemned, and executed. This rigid discipline produced the happiest effect; his infantry, in which alone disaffection had existed, behaving afterwards, in many engagements, with fidelity and consummate bravery. Savannah remaining in possession of the British, the legion was detailed by General Twiggs, to operate in its vicinity. A statement of the various skirmishes in which it acted, would be prolix and unprofitable. With it, the Colonel attacked a post on the Ogeechee, which surrendered; but one of the officers being slain by an American, its garrison resumed their arms, and the enterprise was defeated. On the same day he assaulted another, held by royal militia, and killed or captured them almost to a man; and was himself, in the afternoon, charged by the entire force of British cavalry from Savannah, led by Colonel Campbell in person;

whom, with inferior numbers, he fought with desperation, destroying or disabling as many of the foes as he had himself men engaged in action. When General Anthony Wayne assumed the direction of affairs in Georgia, Colonel Jackson joined him at Ebenezer. The legion was, in general orders, designated as the advanced corps of the army. In this hazardous service, the Colonel was employed until the reduction of Savannah; experiencing for six months every embarrassment which such a situation could produce in a destroyed, swampy, and pestilential country, fifteen miles in advance of the main body, exposed to continual incursions from the enemy, with not a hovel to cover a corps, already in rags, from the vicissitudes of the weather. He very often pursued parties of hostile cavalry to the fortifications of Savannah, and picked off men and horses from the own commons; destroyed a magazine of rice, stored for the British garrison, within reach of their cannon; passing through an encampment of diseased Tories, who had exhibited no mercy for the patriots, but whom he humanely spared: drew the enemy into ambuscades, from which they greatly suffered; and was prominent in the battle of May, 1782, between General Wayne and Colonel Brown. His last engagement, and the last in Georgia between the troops of the two countries was fought on Skidaway Island on the 25th of July. On the 11th of the same month, "in consideration of his severe and fatiguing service in the advance," as General Wayne was pleased to say, the keys of Savannah had been, by the general's order, delivered by a committee of British officers to

the Colonel, who was the first American soldier to tread the soil of a town, from which the arms of a tyrant had too long kept its lawful possessors.

Closing here our recital of Colonel Jackson's revolutionary acts, it may be admissible to express our admiration of that zealous patriotism and gallant bearing, which, in seven years, elevated a boy without a shilling, an emigrant without connections, and with little patronage, to the rank of lieutenant-colonel in the service of his adopted country; honored with the friendship of Sumter, Pickens, Morgan, Wayne, and Greene, and possessed of the affection and confidence of that people, whose destinies he had crossed the Atlantic to share—the people of the sovereign State of Georgia. Her legislature, on the 30th July, 1782, unanimously voted that he had “rendered many great and useful services” to America; and presented to him a house and lot in Savannah, “as a mark of the sense entertained of his merits.”

The profession to which Colonel Jackson's early studies had been directed, demanded his unremitting attention. Assisted by the advice of George Walton, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, he was soon admitted to its honors and emoluments. In 1785, the claims of a family were added to his other motives for exertion. In that year he was married to Mary Charlotte Young, daughter of William Young, a deceased patriot, who had been among the foremost to raise the standard of freedom. But the bar presented a field too limited for his active mind. He sought political advancement. By the people of Chatham county, he was sent several years,

successively, to the State legislature. Early after his entering upon political life, the benignity of his heart impelled him to support enactments, by which certain obnoxious individuals were relieved from the acts of confiscation and banishment. But for his influence they might never have returned to America, nor recovered a dollar of their estate. The ingratitude of our nature was glaringly exhibited in the subsequent conduct of many of these pardoned men, who were, throughout the life of Colonel Jackson, his most bitter and uncompromising foes. And the grovelling, calculating baseness of that nature, was manifested in an offer made for his support by one, who tendered a direct bribe, which was indignantly rejected.

In 1786, he was made a brigadier-general, and an honorary member of the Cincinnati society. On the 7th of January, 1788, at the age of thirty years, he was elected Governor of Georgia, which office he modestly declined, declaring that neither his age nor experience would justify acceptance. As brigadier-general, however, he proved his readiness to serve his country by actively directing, in person, military operations for the defence of the counties on the seaboard, harassed by predatory and murderous bands of Creek Indians. After ratification by Georgia of the Federal Constitution, he was, in 1789 chosen to represent her Eastern district in the first congress held under that sacred instrument. In many of the most important debates, now referred to as exhibiting an authoritative exposition by that body of the principles of the Constitution, General Jackson engaged. In 1791, his great and sincerely respected friend, Gen-

eral Wayne, who had become a citizen of Georgia, and possessed, very justly, the veneration of her people, was induced, doubtless with honest purposes in himself, yet certainly, perhaps unconsciously, by the instigations of General Jackson's adversaries, to become, in opposition, a candidate for the same district. An animated contest was waged before the people. General Wayne was returned. General Jackson presented himself before the House of Representatives in February, 1792, contested the return, personally conducted his claim to the seat and obtained a decision, awarded without a dissenting voice that General Wayne was not entitled to retain it. The House refused by the casting vote of the Speaker, to declare General Jackson elected. The concluding speech of General Jackson is represented, in a published statement of that contested election, one of the first under the present Constitution, to have been a display of brilliant oratory, followed by long continued applause. "With these sentiments, Mr. Speaker," said he, in closing, "I submit the facts that I have brought forward to the house; and with them I commit the rights of myself, the rights of the State of Georgia, and I had almost said the rights of the United States, to their decision; and I beg leave to repeat, that A FREE REPRESENTATION is what we fought for, A FREE REPRESENTATION is what we obtained, A FREE REPRESENTATION is what our children should be taught to lisp, and our youths to relinquish only with their lives!" Charging against General Wayne, for whose character and service he had profound respect, no improper

conduct; he did not hesitate to drive home against his own enemies accusations of the blackest corruption at the polls. His charge was sustained by the legislature of Georgia, who in December, 1791, investigated the conduct of a judge of her superior courts in connection with that election; General Jackson then a member of the house and of the impeaching committee. The house unanimously impeached, the senate unanimously convicted, and the judge was sentenced to loss of office and disqualification for thirty years.

In December, 1792, when again a member of the legislature, general Jackson, jealous, like other statesmen of the jurisdiction assumed by the Supreme Court in the case of *Chisholm* against the State of Georgia, and believing that, were such jurisdiction permitted, the retained sovereignty of the States would be lost, introduced resolutions which, sustained by the legislature, called for, and, in part, produced the eleventh amendment of the federal constitution. In this year, he was elected a major-general; and was again, in the next, employed on the frontiers in repressing the violence of our savage foes. In 1793, 1794, and 1795, he was a senator in congress. Recalled by his fellow citizens, who (inflamed almost to madness, and discerning around them, in every quarter, their rights trampled upon by men of highest character) passed resolutions in their primary county meetings demanding his aid at home, he resigned his honorable station, and immediately embarked all the faculties of his mind, all the firmness of his nature, and all the reputation he had acquired, in indefatigable exertions to

effect a repeal of the act by which Georgia had sold to companies of speculators millions of acres of her western territory. To recall the memory of her degradation, to assist in extending remembrance of her shame, can give no satisfaction to her sons. The biographer approaches the subject with loathing, impelled to it by the obligations he has assumed. His painful duty will be comparatively light, if he can convince himself that his succinct presentation of the speculation shall have the least effect in fastening upon the minds of the American people the belief, that "the price of liberty is eternal vigilance"; and in convincing them that, whilst a just confidence is given to their public servants, they should be watched with eyes that never sleep. A majority of the Georgia legislature had been bribed by promises of shares—some by certificates of shares, for which they were never to pay—others by expectations of slave property. The foulest treason had been perpetrated, under the guise of legislation. Citizens of the most exalted standing from several States, some of them high public functionaries: one a senator from Georgia, whose duty required him to have been at his post in Congress; others judges, generals, revolutionary characters, whose popularity and past services made them more dangerous, and served ultimately to heap degradation upon their heads, had attended at Augusta, in January, 1795, and executed their unhallowed purpose. Georgia had been robbed of her domain—her own law givers corrupted and consenting and an indelible stigma fixed upon her fame, her own children blackening her escutcheon. The full iniquity of this

nefarious legislation—if usurpation can be denominated legislation—was exposed by General Jackson in a series of letters addressed to the people under the signature of “Sicilius.” At the following session he was a member. The all-absorbing subject, with the petitions, remonstrances, memorials, and other proceedings of the people, was referred to a committee of which he was chairman. Testimony was taken upon oath, which established deep and incontrovertible guilt. The rescinding law was passed. It was drawn and reported by General Jackson, and adopted as it came from his pen. The merits of this latter act—its constitutionality—its consistency with republican principles—its necessity—its justice—have all been freely and ably discussed in our country, in private circles, in pamphlets, in the public gazettes, in the Congress of the Union, in the Supreme Court. The decision of the country, perhaps, has been against the power of the rescinding legislature, so far as innocent purchasers under the fraudulent grants were interested; but, whether constitutional or not, nothing is more certain than that the honest of every section of the United States; all who detest corruption, admire virtue, and regard an honest representation as the bulwark of the public liberties, have considered its action upon the Yazoo speculation as pure, and its motives patriotic. The citizens of Georgia, especially, have held in horror and detestation the authors and abettors of her humiliation; and have consecrated with their best affections the memories of those who were faithful to the State. The Yazoo act repealed, every vestige and memorial of its passage expunged from the

public records, and burnt with all the ceremony and circumstance which popular indignation demanded, the popularity of General Jackson became unrivalled. But his happiness and that of his family were destroyed. By resistance to the speculation, the number of his adversaries was vastly augmented. Aristocratic pride had been humbled, venality had been exposed, visionary fortunes had been prostrated, principalities had been lost. His person was repeatedly attacked; his life was often in imminent danger; and his reputation was assailed with unrelenting calumnies, from one end of the United States to another, wherever purchasers and sub-purchasers resided, which pursued him to the grave.

General Jackson was, in 1798, a member of the convention that formed the present Constitution of Georgia. Much, if not the greater part, of this instrument was prepared by him. He was governor from January, 1798, to March, 1801. His administration was remarkable for efforts to effect a cession of the territory now embraced within the States of Alabama and Mississippi; for exertions in behalf of the university of Georgia, which commenced operations under the venerable Josiah Meigs in 1801; and for the cordial support he gave to the republican party, in opposition to the policy of President John Adams. In December, 1801, he resumed his station in the senate of the United States. In 1802, he signed, as a commissioner of Georgia, jointly with Abraham Baldwin and John Milledge, articles of cession, by which Georgia yielded her territory west of the Chattahoochee. In 1803, certain charges of corruption in office

when governor, relating to the Yazoo deposit, were preferred against him by one Zachariah Cox. These, together with documents in support, were referred by the General Assembly of Georgia to a select committee; and the spectacle was presented of a grave inquiry instituted into the official conduct of a citizen, charged with accepting a *douceur*, when at the head of the State, who, within a short period previous, had stemmed, with indomitable courage and unshaken virtue, a torrent of the vilest iniquity; and had contemptuously rejected overtures, the acceptance of which might have imparted princely wealth to himself and his posterity. A resolution was reported, and adopted by both branches, no one dissenting, that General Jackson "had been vilified by the said Zachariah Cox; that his conduct was, during his administration, characterized with honesty and disinterestedness;" and that "his reputation stands too high in the opinion of this legislature, and his fellow-citizens at large, to be effected by any malicious insinuations or assertions whatsoever."

General Jackson was a member of the senate until March, 1806. In his career in that exalted body, he was perfectly independent. He supported the administration of Mr. Jefferson only so far as he deemed it correct, opposing its measures when his judgment so directed, and declaring, in the judiciary debate in 1802, that "as a political man, he was no more for Thomas Jefferson than he was for John Adams. When he acts according to my opinion right, I will support him; when wrong, oppose him—and I trust that a majority on this floor will always act in the

same way." The station of president, *pro tempore* was tendered to him; but he declined it, preferring to be on the floor, always ready to resist the claims of the grantees and purchasers under the rescinded Georgia grants, to a large portion of which claims he made opposition ending only with his last gasp. He died on the 19th March, 1806. Interred four miles from Washington, his remains have lately been removed to the congressional burial yard. John Randolph of Roanoke, his personal friend and political admirer, wrote the inscription on the tablet which covers them. Mr. Randolph had in youth been inflamed with a high respect for his lofty public integrity; was five years in Congress with him, where a personal attachment was contracted; and is understood to have said that his own life had, in some degree, its model in his. Hence, perhaps, connected with his own abhorrence of everything vile, proceeded Mr. Randolph's invincible hostility to the Yazoo claims. Georgia has sought to perpetuate General Jackson's name and services, by giving the first to a county, and by expressions of her sense of the last in her legislative resolutions. Her gratitude was merited. If there was a passion stronger than all others in the heart of General Jackson, that was devotion to her service. She was the earthly object of his adoration. For her, and in her service, he surrendered all hope of federal distinction and federal advantages, which his revolutionary deeds, his civil life, his early congressional displays, his acknowledged talents, his admitted abilities for public usefulness, might have led him to expect. Whilst, with enlarged patriotism, he frequently affirmed that the proudest

title known to man was that of "An American Citizen," and warmly cherished the union of the States, and the constitution adopted by the sages and fathers of the revolution; he yet regarded Georgia, emphatically as *his country*, and as such, congratulated her in debate in the senate in 1803. Time has passed away, and with it the bitterness of hostility. Prejudice and passion have passed, and truth and justice have swayed. Whatever may be the violence and conflicts of contending parties; however, occasionally, authority may be claimed for opposing doctrines: in General Jackson's acts and principles it is conceded by all in Georgia, that never had the union a more patriotic citizen, never Georgia a more resolute soldier, a more intelligent statesman, a more devoted servant.

*From Absalom H. Chappell's Miscellanies of Georgia.
Parts 2 and 3.*

SECTION VII.

We have now reached a point in this long and intricate drama, at which the curtain drops for several years on the General Government and Georgia re-enters on the scene, to become this time the fierce assailant and undoer of the monstrous villainy that had been so recently enacted in her Legislature and under her name. Though the hue and cry against the enormity was first raised, as we have seen, at the Federal Capital and by the Federal Executive and Congress, yet here at home, the shock was far the deepest and most violent. It was here the crime struck with its most heinous, deadly effect, despoiling the State at once of a vast public property and her precious public honor,—not only robbing her of invaluable territories, but doing it under circumstances that brought imputation on her national patriotism and magnanimity,—doing it, moreover, by debauching her trusted public servants, whom she had chosen to be the guardians, not betrayers of her high interests and her fair fame. Thus had that crime wounded her in a point dearer than landed or monied wealth, tarnished her reputation, defiled at its young fountain head the eternal stream of her history and polluted the waters mingled with which her name was to go down to future times, and especially to her own children forever.

I design not recounting minutely the oft told, familiar story of the State's strong sovereign action in resentment and redress of this celebrated wrong. That story, at once simple and striking, has ever been so much an attractive theme to writers and talkers as to have become thread bare and to recoil from any thing like a labored handling now. Preliminarily, however, it should be told that the first effect of the sale on the mass of the people was stunning stupefaction and amazement. They found difficulty in believing that the deed had been done. The entire failure of the measure before the preceding Legislature and the entire quietude and silence in regard to it that had ensued, had rendered them unsuspecting and secure, and they had let the subject pass off from their minds and it occurred not to them that it had not been equally dropped by the speculating Companies. They were unaware that these latter had been during the whole interim stealthily, yet industriously, at work every where, both in and out of Georgia, and had really gotten into their hands the complete mastery of the game before they again came out to light and began to take open steps towards their object. It is wonderful what a profound privacy they had succeeded in maintaining in their widely ramified operations, a privacy kept up to the last possible moment. Even after their bill was introduced, there was no notoriety beyond Augusta and its neighborhood that such a measure was on hand. No publicity had been given to it, no announcement made of it by any name or title pointing to its character or contents. A lying title concealed its true

nature which consequently was not indicated by anything on the journal of either House or in the newspapers, which were wont to give only lists of the titles of the bills introduced.

The consequence of all which was that the people awoke to find themselves outraged and robbed without having had any notice of the design or warning of their danger or the least chance of outcry and resistance. At first they were likewise ignorant of the turpitude of the means by which the wrong had been effected, or what strangers, or who among themselves except the guilty members of the Legislature and the few grantees named in the act, were concerned in its perpetration. They soon, however, became better and bitterly enlightened. The astounding discovery broke upon them that the cancerous fibres of the monstrous transaction pervaded not only the State but the United States, and embraced they knew not how many powerful and influential names and shrewd, unscrupulous characters. They were especially struck with the successful pains that had been taken to enlist in its interest all the men in Georgia who were prominent enough to attract the base courtship of the Yazooists and pliant enough to become their tools and accomplices. Most of those to whom the people would naturally have looked to become their leaders and to champion their cause in this great emergency, were either bought up and subsidized on the side of the enemy by their own interests or paralyzed by their relations to interested parties. Besides, not many men were there, indeed, who were at all competent to such leadership and championship as was

wanted. Nothing short of the highest courage and the greatest energy, reputation, talents and self devotion could constitute the necessary qualifications. He who should give himself to the people's service on this occasion had need of a charmed life and an invincible soul, as well as of a concentrated and commanding mind: For assuredly it was a lion's den he would have to enter, a fiery furnace through which he would have to pass. And by universal concession there was but one man in the State, in all respects equal and fitted to the exigency, and who at the same time had kept himself pure and intact, and but for the extraordinary self-abnegation and lofty, patriotic intrepidity and devotion of that one man, the people would have been without a leader and champion, such as the case imperatively required. That man was General James Jackson, the noblest and most admirable name in the history of Georgia, then a member of the United States Senate as Mr. Few's successor and General Gunn's colleague.

I do not know that I can open the part acted by this extraordinary man against the Yazoo Fraud better than by recalling a personal reminiscence of my own full half a century old and more. It was at Hancock Superior Court, at April term, 1823,—a date at which the Governor was still chosen by the Legislature, and as the name of one of those understood to be aspiring to the office was to be found in the old public documents as the owner of a few Yazoo subshares, conversation began to be somewhat turned to the subject of the Yazoo Fraud and young men, especially, were keen inquirers. It was under these

circumstances that a number of the junior members of the bar were sitting one night after supper in the large, pleasant room, up stairs, which our good host, William G. Springer, whose soul contended with his body, which should be biggest, had assigned to us across the street,—when we were agreeably startled by Judge Dooly* entering to pay us a visit,—a courtesy on the part of the Judges not uncommon in those days. The Judge, whose mind was a rich treasury of the miscellanies of Georgia, past and present, and whose manner of saying everything was singularly plain, condensed and incisive, was soon drawn out on the Yazoo Fraud. My recollection has ever since been perfectly distinct of the following remark made by him in the course of his conversing: “The people,” he said, “were generally against the Yazoo sale, but the rich and leading men were mostly for it, because, in most instances, they or some of their friends or relations were interested in it. The people wanted to get rid of it, but did not know how to do it. They had nobody to lead and contrive for them, and Gen. Jackson resigned his seat in the United States Senate and came home and ran for the Legislature in Chat-ham county, and was elected to lead and contrive for the people.”

*Whoever may feel curious as to what sort of physiognomy belonged to that very striking man, John M. Dooly, long the Judge of the Northern Circuit, the greatest wit as all agreed, and generally conceded to have been also the greatest judicial intellect of his day, may see a wonderfully true likeness of him (Adonised, however,) in the portrait of the celebrated painter, Gilbert Stuart, in the 1st Volume of the American Portrait Gallery.

Such were the words of Judge Dooly to us young men about Gen. Jackson—words which struck me greatly and imprinted themselves indelibly, enkindling my mind with a most vivid and exalted conception of the illustrious character, to whom they related and making him from that moment a study and almost an idolatry to me. The annals of mankind teem with the names of heroes, martyrs, self-sacrificers, martial, moral, religious—men who have held their lives and their ease as nothing in the scale against glory, duty, honor; and yet among them all I am unable to recollect any instance parallel and fully up to this conduct of Gen. Jackson so pointedly stated by Judge Dooly, so barely and sleepily mentioned by history. Certainly our own country, vast and diversified as it is, has hitherto furnished nothing equal to it or like it, nor does it promise according to present symptoms ever to do so. Does any man believe that there is now to be found in all the low minded ranks of power and of the public service a single bosom in which even a dormant possibility dwells of such sublime, self-denying, unselfish patriotism? What United States Senator would now resign his seat with yet four years to run and come home and seek the humblest Representative post known to our system of Government,—and all for the sake of the people and their rights and vindication?

Gen. Jackson, however, had given some evidence on a previous occasion in his life of his capability of this *ne plus ultra* of public virtue. In 1788, when but thirty years old, he had been elected to the office

of Governor of the State, and declined accepting it upon the ground of lacking age and experience. It was in full keeping with this act of noble, patriotic modesty and humility that he should afterwards in 1795, have so subjugated an ambition of the most ardent and lofty type as to give up the highest and become a candidate for the lowest place in political service, because he beheld his beloved Georgia in a mighty trouble in which she needed the sacrifice from him, and in which by making it he could do so much more and better for her, although at the cost of doing so much less and worse for himself.

For well he knew not only what he was surrendering, but also to what he was exposing himself when he magnanimously resolved to descend from the high round of the political ladder to which he had climbed down to the very bottom, there to scuffle and fight, "lead and contrive for the people," both against all the bad men who had combined, and all the good men who had been misled, to become the State's betrayers and robbers, or the supporters of its betrayers and robbers. He knew what enemies he was necessitating himself to make and how deeply they would be envenomed against him, and that their thirst for his blood would be only less keen than their greed for the prey he was bent on snatching from their grasp. He knew, in fine, that from the first moment to the last of the work on which he was entering, he would have to carry his life in his hand, although the ultimate fate that awaited him lay concealed from human view, and none could foresee that a life so dear and invaluable was destined to pass away, alas! so

prematurely—a slow-wasting sacrifice, long offered up on the altar of Georgia's interest and honor.*

From the first Gen. Jackson had been outspoken and vehement in his denunciations of the sale, and had contributed greatly to rousing the popular rage against it. This,—even before he had doffed his Senatorial robes for a candidacy for the State Legislature, and thereby formally entered the lists as the people's leader and champion against a host of powerful and unscrupulous men whose mortal fear and hatred he thenceforward incurred. The people at once hailed

* Col. Benton, in his *Abridgement of the Congressional Debates*, Vol. III. twice comments upon Gen. Jackson, and the cause of his death. At p. 338 is the following note at the close of the debate on the Yazoo Claims:

“Mr. Randolph was the great opposer of these claims in Congress and General Jackson their great opposer in Georgia. It was he, who aroused the feeling that overthrew the General Assembly who made the grant, and elected the Legislature which annulled the Act, and burned the record of it. He was in the Senate of the United States with James Gunn, the Senator alluded to in the debate as being engaged in the Fraud, and lost his life in the last of the many duels which his opposition to that measure brought upon him.”

And again on page 465, in a note to the proceedings in Congress on the occasion of Gen. Jackson's death, March 19th, 1806, Col. Benton says among other things: “He was a man of marked character, high principle and strong temperament—honest, patriotic, brave, hating tyranny, oppression and meanness in every form; the bold denouncer of crime in high as well as in low places; a ready speaker, and as ready with his pistol as his tongue, and involved in many duels on account of his hot opposition to criminal measures. The defeat of the Yazoo Fraud was the most signal act of his Legislative life, for which he paid the penalty of his life, dying of wounds received in the last of the many duels, which his undaunted attacks upon that measure brought upon him.”

him and rallied to him, and it was not long before under his brave auspices and their fierce enthusiasm the battle into which they had plunged was substantially won. For the storm quickly overspread the State with a violence that appalled the Yazooists and their myrmydoms, and they everywhere slunk and cowered before it long before the election day came. But still Jackson's hot and heavy blows were not mitigated, nor did the people's vengeful energy slacken. It was more than even the bravo, Gunn, could brave or bear. He became utterly paralyzed and annihilated, as it were, by the intense, crushing detestation of which he was sensible of having become the object, and we hear no more of him whatever except that he continued to occupy to the last day of his new, basely gotten term, the seat in the National Senate, which he at once obscurely filled and flagrantly dishonored. The bribed Senators and Representatives in the Legislature met from their constituents a fate similar to that of their bribing, bullying chief. The tempest of public indignation against them was such as made not a few of them tremble for their personal safety on their return home. But their fears were groundless. Such was the orderly, law abiding character of our ancestors, except in cases where society is obliged to resort to the "higher law" for its purgation and protection, that, content with the sort of penalty which God inflicted on Cain, they simply branded their culprit legislators and consigned them to political death and social ostracism and infamy.

Since to this cause we owe a better work than could have been gotten at its hands, namely, the glorious

old Constitution of 1798, the time-honored mental product of the illustrious Jackson and his anti-Yazoo compatriots, under which Georgia long grew and prospered, still clinging to it with increasing reverence for nearly seventy years until finally in these evil latter days it was, to her eternal sorrow, overthrown and thrust aside by a conquering despotism and unreasoning bayonets.

When the great disappointment occasioned by the above told gross infidelity of the Convention came upon the people, when they saw what a scurvy, pernicious trick had been played off on them from that high quarter and perceived themselves cheated, wronged, betrayed at every turn, first by their Legislature and then by their Convention, then it was that their fierce indignation rose to its acme. Then it was that enraged and bewildered, they felt intensely the need of somebody on whom they could repose a true and boundless trust, on whom they could fully rely to lead and contrive for them, to conquer and crush in their behalf in this matter. Then it was that they called upon their most idolized man, Gen. James Jackson, to leave his proud seat among the Conscrip Fathers of the Union, the constitutional counsellors of Washington, and to come at once to their help and headship. Then it was that with a sublime alacrity and devotion, he instantly responded to a call which his own fiery sentiments and denunciations had largely inspired. Without a moment's hesitation he resigned his Senatorship and dismounting, as it were, from the equestrian rank, trode the ground once more, a private soldier, merging himself with the people as one

of themselves and literally fighting on foot in their midst from May to November, to which time the election had been changed by the recent Convention. Behold him there covered with dust, assailed by hatred, the target of the enemy's deadliest aim throughout the long canvass. Behold him, "leading, contriving for the people," toiling with tongue and pen, with mind and body, facing and defying every danger, devoting himself in every way, sparing himself in none. A spectacle, how replete with all that can be conceived of the sublime and beautiful in political conduct! His work was done fearlessly and thoroughly. His spirit pervaded all Georgia and entered like a higher life the souls of her people. The enemy strived at first to make some show of a stand against him and his brave yeomanry, but in vain. In all parts of the State the victory was complete and resulted in returning him and his friends and supporters to the Legislature by an overwhelming majority in both branches.

Of course, in that Legislature he was the master-spirit—the dictator and controller. But not much of study or effort was needed from him there. Execution alone was the watchword and work. What had to be done was already prefixed and pronounced by the people at the polls, rendering the duty and action of their Representatives as plain, simple and unobstructed as it was grand, imposing and important. That duty was to repeal the Yazoo Act, to annul and rescind the Yazoo Sale as unconstitutional, fraudulent and void, a huge treachery, a heinous conspiracy of the buyers and sellers against the people, the offspring

of bribery and corruption. This duty upon full and convincing proofs laid before them they unflinchingly performed. Whilst the State was thus asserting and enforcing her unaltered ownership of the vast territories of which it had been sought to despoil her, she by the same Act disavowed all claim to the vile purchase money that had been thrust into her Treasury and directed it to be restored to those from whom it came or to whom it might belong. Moreover, to give the greater emphasis to her sovereign fiat of condemnation and annulment, she ordered every vestige of the accursed transaction to be obliterated from her records and the huge, pretentious enrollment of the Act itself to be given to the flames, consecrated although it was by accumulated high and solemn signatures and by the great Seal of Georgia pendant in massive wax. The high, unexampled, damuatory sentence was duly carried into execution under the broad, bright sky, on the beautiful State House Square, at Louisville, the new seat of Government, in the presence of the Governor and Legislature and a mighty assemblage of the people. And according to a tradition, which cannot be doubted, for it has descended to us uncontradicted in a continuous current from that period to the present day, a holy, religious *eclat*, significant of the Divine displeasure on the great iniquity, was shed over the scene by drawing down the consuming fire from heaven with a sun-glass before that immense and imposing multitude of witnessing eyes.

Congress spoke, and on the 7th of April, 1798, passed an Act empowering the President of the United

States to appoint three Commissioners, whose duty, among other things, it should be to receive from such commissioners as should be appointed on the part of Georgia any proposals for the relinquishment or cession of the whole or any part of the territory claimed by the State lying out of its ordinary jurisdiction.

This act was undoubtedly passed in anticipation of the Convention's soon meeting, and in the confidence that that Body would receive it as an overture for a cession and honor it as such with a suitable response. Nor was this confidence disappointed. How was it possible that it should have been? For of that Convention the noble Jackson, although Governor of the State at the time, was a member, master-spirit there too as in the anti-Yazoo Legislature of 1796,—surrounded now as he was then, by his most choice, enlightened and pure-minded compatriots. From such men no botched work could come when a great public duty was to be performed. And certainly nothing could be more thorough and perfect than what actually came from their hands in regard both to the Yazoo subject and the State's Western territory. What they did was to erect an express constitutional barrier against the sale of the territory of the State or any part of it to individuals or private companies unless a county or counties, should have first been laid off including such territory, and the Indian rights thereto should have been first extinguished also. Anybody can see at a glance how completely this prohibition goes to the bottom of things, exterminating the very roots and all possibility in the future of such crimes

and misdoings as the two Yazoo sales had been. It is not in this provision, however, although it was wise and statesman-like in the highest degree, that we find the response that was wanted to the above mentioned Congressional overture. *That* presents itself in another clause which enables the Legislature to sell or contract to the United States all or any part of the State's Western domain lying beyond the Chatahoochee, and then again still further in that third clause which authorizes the Legislature to give its consent to the establishment by the United States of one or more governments westward of that river. Behold here implanted in our long honored Constitution of 1798, by the magnanimous men who then held sway in Georgia, the germ of the memorable cession of April, 1802, and of the two great States of Alabama and Mississippi.

These provisions show that the sense of the Convention was in favor of a cession to the United States. The first Legislature under the new Constitution, being of like opinion, proceeded at once to take measures for carrying out the object. On the 6th of December, 1799, it passed an Act appointing Commissioners to settle with those of the United States the terms of the cession ; to which Act the ensuing Legislature of 1800, made an amendment, adding to the list of Commissioners on the part of the State the name of Gen. Jackson, who was now filling a second gubernatorial term, but had just been chosen by the Legislature to the United States Senate as successor to Gen. Gunn, whose time was to expire on the 3d of March ensuing.

The great business now proceeded at a quickened pace. Assuming it as certain that the ultimate and early event would be a vast territorial cession, embracing the Yazoo lands, Congress had already in May, 1800, amended the aforementioned Act of April, 1798, by imposing on the National Commissioners therein created, a heavy and tedious additional duty which would and could only arise after the cession had been made,—the duty, namely, of investigating all claims against the lands ceded, of receiving from the claimants propositions for the compromise and settlement of their claims, and of laying a full statement of the whole, together with their opinion thereon, before Congress for its decision thereon. Mr. Jefferson upon entering on the Presidency found the appointing of these Commissioners one of the first matters demanding his attention. His sense of the exceeding magnitude and importance of the duties to be devolved on them is strongly attested by the men he selected. They were none other than three of the members of his Cabinet—Mr. Madison, his Secretary of State, Mr. Gallatin, his Secretary of the Treasury, and Mr. Lincoln, his Attorney General. A grander and more imposing set of Commissioners for any object or purpose whatever was never anywhere constituted, whether we regard the illustrious character and ability of the men or their ripe, thorough statesmanship and public experience, or the splendor and importance of the offices they were then actually holding near the President. Their very appointment shows that Mr. Jefferson contemplated that in performing their trust as Commissioners they were to be all the while acting

under the responsibility that attached to them as components of his Administration.

Fully worthy of association and conference with such men were the Commissioners on the part of Georgia,—Jackson, Baldwin, and Milledge,—whose functions, however, were to be more simple and of shorter continuance, confined to the single business of negotiating and signing the cession expected to be made by the State—a work which was completed on the 24th day of April, 1802, whereby Georgia conveyed to the United States all the territory stretching from her present Western boundary to the Mississippi river, and lying between the 31st and the 35th parallels of Latitude. In consideration of which the United States agreed to pay Georgia a million and a quarter of dollars, and to be at the expense of extinguishing for her the Indian occupancy on all the territory still retained by the State.

Of Gen. Jackson himself it is meet and would be both grateful and rewarding that something further should be said and told, even though it carry us back beyond the Revolutionary era. For it is attended alike with pleasure and profit to follow and observe such a man from his early beginnings and through all his vicissitudes. What we have already had occasion to see and know about him naturally excites curiosity to know more, and we would fain get a full view of one so marked and superior, so much above the world's ordinary standard and requirements, so much a pride and honor to our common nature;—one whom such a judge as Thos. Spalding, himself assuredly a most noble man and who enjoyed the amplest op-

portunities, in his long and honorable life, of knowing men of distinction in Europe and America, advisedly pronounced, forty odd years after his death, "the noblest man with whom it had been his lot to be acquainted."*

He landed on our shores from his native England in 1772, a lone lad of fifteen years. Of virtuous and respectable parentage, breeding and connexions, we cannot but suppose that he had at that immature age already strongly evinced safe and superior qualities of mind and character and given evidences of high future promise;—otherwise his father would hardly have consented, nor would such a man as Mr. Wereat, a name of great note and respect in our Colonial and Revolutionary annals and at one time Acting Governor of the State, have advised him to consent

*Bench and Bar of Georgia—vol. 2, page 102. Title, John Houston. See there a letter from Mr. Spalding to Maj. Miller, of the 19th October, 1850, from which the following is an extract:

"It gives me pleasure to state that Gen. James Jackson, the noblest man with whom it has been my lot to be acquainted, when I called upon him as Governor to give me a letter to Mr. King, our then Minister in London, kept me to dine with him; and asked me what were Mr. Gibbons' receipts from his profession." I replied, "Three thousand pounds per annum." "My own were about that amount when I unwisely left my profession for politics. Mr. Gibbons, as a whole, was the greatest lawyer in Georgia." Let me say to you that Gen. Jackson and Mr. Gibbons had exchanged three shots at each other. They were considered the bitterest enemies by the public. A high-minded man knows no enmity."

I had intended to add here a few words of my own about Mr. Spalding, whom I knew, revered and held in the highest honor. But on turning to the notice of him in White's Historical Sketches of Georgia, I prefer it to anything I can write. It will be found in full as a note at the end of this chapter.

to his son's coming to America under his Mr. Wereat's auspices, to make his own way and build up his fortunes in this remote and then wild part of the earth. We are told that his father was a strenuous lover of freedom and free Government and of the rights of the people as against arbitrary power,—and particularly that he was a warm sympathizer with the Colonies in their as yet bloodless quarrel with the mother country for their rights and liberties. These principles and sentiments young Jackson had deeply imbibed before quitting the parental roof and indeed they largely influenced his emigration and casting his lot here. Accordingly, it was not long after reaching his new home in Georgia, before they shone out in his warm participation in the feelings and proceedings which were even then beginning to herald the approaching Revolution.

The very pursuit to which his father and Mr. Wereat had destined him in Georgia is proof of their high opinion of his capacity and endowments. For although so young, he was, upon his arrival in Savannah, at once put to the study of law in the office of Samuel Farley, Esq., applying himself at the same time to such other studies as were necessary to the completion of his general education. With what enthusiasm, industry and success he applied himself, some idea may be formed from the fact handed down from his own lips by Mr. Spalding, that after the Revolutionary war and before embarking in politics, he practiced law so prosperously that his professional earnings at their acme reached to the sum of £3,000 per annum—a prodigious amount when we consider

the small population and the still smaller wealth, commerce and resources of Georgia in those times.

Before, however, finishing his studies and coming to the Bar, and whilst yet a mere stripling, he, like that other glorious young genius of the day—spring of the Revolution, Alexander Hamilton, betwixt whom and himself there are not wanting strong points of resemblance, obeyed the impulse of courage, ambition, patriotism and a passionate love of liberty and hastened to exchange his books and seclusion for arms and the din of war.

It comports not with my plan to enter into the minute details of the young soldier's Revolutionary career, and indeed nothing could be more unnecessary. For are they not to be found written in every book of the chronicles of Georgia?—where, among the many things in relation to him, it is recorded that his first feat of arms (a very daring and purely volunteer affair of himself and a little band of other patriots, resulting in their burning several of the enemy's armed vessels which had grounded in proceeding up the river against the city) won for him much applause and a lieutenancy. Soon a captaincy rewarded his rapidly developing martial merits. And so he continued to rise, never failing to justify his promotions by his performances—until at length we see him before the end of the war by Gen. Greene's appointment and the confirmation of Congress, the commander, in his 24th year, of a mixed legion of cavalry and infantry. On every occasion and in every position throughout the long, harsh struggle, he added to his steadily growing reputation. Victory brought

him laurels which, so fine was ever his conduct, no adversities or reverses that befel him could take away or dim. For alike in distress and in good fortune he exhibited fertile and brilliant capacity, an unflinching devotion to duty, indefatigable activity and a heroism not to be cowed by wounds, perils, fatigues; nor by hunger, thirst and nakedness, nor all the other nameless discouragements and sufferings of ill-provided war and campaigning in the woods and swamps of lower Georgia and Carolina against an enemy entrenched and under cover in Augusta, Savannah and Charleston, and continually sallying out from these strongholds as assailants, pursuers, marauders, devastators—and then rushing back again to their shelter when routed or endangered or wearied out or sated with spoliation. Such an impression did his extraordinary merits and services in the closing scenes of the war in Georgia make on his General, that renowned soldier and commander, Anthony Wayne, that on the occasion of the final surrender of Savannah by the British to our arms in July, 1782, he honored him by ordering that the formal surrender should be made into his hands. And accordingly it was so done by the keys of the city being delivered up to him by the evacuating British commander in presence of both armies.

One of those remarkable incidents which, by reason of befalling men of celebrity, often become canonized in history, is related to have occurred during the gloomiest period of the Revolution to him and his young friend, John Milledge, the same who afterwards became a Representative and then a Senator in

Congress, and Governor also of the State—in honor of whom likewise Milledgeville was named.

During the utter prostration of our cause in lower Georgia, consequent on the fall of Savannah, in 1778, these undaunted youthful patriots repaired together to South Carolina to see service. Whilst on their way to join Gen. Moultrie's standard "barefoot and in rags, these sons of liberty," we are told, "were apprehended as spies by some American soldiers and condemned to be hung. The gallows was actually prepared, and but for the timely arrival of Maj. Devaux, who accidentally heard of the transaction, the two young patriots would have been executed."* Behold here in our own annals an authentic fact which, taken in connection with the subsequent eminence and illustriousness of both the men, surpasses anything in history, nay, even excels that famous antique fiction of Belisarius, old and blind, begging a penny,† victim of Justinian's imperial ingratitude and cruelty after a lifetime of the hardships and dangers of war in his service, and an hundred victories won for him and declining Rome.

The long revolutionary struggle being at last ended and the occupation of arms at an end with it, peace found Col. Jackson standing amidst the ruins of the recent war like thousand of his brother officers and soldiers in utter poverty—houseless, penniless, without means or employment—with no resources but such as existed in his own mind and character, and in

*White Statistics of Georgia, page 337. White's Hist. Coll., page 219. National Portrait Gallery. Title, James Jackson.

†"Da Belisario obolum.

the boundless love and admiration of his fellow-citizens, a love and admiration heightened by a sense of gratitude for his services—all which was well attested by legislative resolutions of thanks and honor, and the gift to him by the State of a house and home in the city of Savannah.

But by nothing could he be paralyzed or rendered a cypher. It was a necessity of his nature and character that he should cherish and pursue high aims under all circumstances, adverse or prosperous, of peace or of war. He went instantly to work in the arduous, aspiring profession to which he had been early dedicated. As we have already seen, he had stored and trained his mind by juridical and miscellaneous studies before the Revolution, and during it not in arms alone was he developed and exercised. Led by duty and martial ardor to harangue his commands on many a trying occasion, he found out and cultivated that rare talent of ready, effective, stirring eloquence with which nature, study, self-discipline and practice combined gradually to endow him in a distinguished manner. This bright, crowning talent coming in aid of his general mass of ability and knowledge, and of his great energy, uprightness, industry, and enthusiasm, he rose rapidly at the Bar and won the triumphant success there to which allusion has been made. So striking was his success and such the impression he made of possessing qualifications equal to any, the highest, spheres of public service, that his fellow-citizens soon looked forward with pride to his future career and foresaw the honors of the patriot-statesman clustering on his brow along with those, already

won, of the forum and the field. It was at this stage, in 1788, that the office of Governor was tendered him, but which his modesty declined, on the ground of the want of age and political experience. For though his ambition was high and mettlesome, yet it was far from being prurient and self-blinding, and did not lead him to think that what service he had seen in our Legislature, and which was all the political apprenticeship he had then had, was sufficient to fit one so young for the chief magistracy of the State.

There was, however, another great and interesting political theater just opening at the time, better suited to his years, his genius, and his training, and for which he felt a predilection that may have had some subtle influence, for aught we know, in disinclining him to the Governorship. For the new Federal Constitution had been now adopted, and in apportioning the representation of the States in Congress, there had been given to Georgia three members in the Lower House, and the Legislature at its first meeting afterwards had divided the State into three Congressional Districts for the election of those members. Gen. Jackson became a candidate and a successful one in the First or Eastern District, composed of the counties of Chatham, Liberty, Effingham, Glynn and Camden. In the Second or Middle District Abraham Baldwin was chosen, and in the Third or Western, George Mathews. All over the United States, likewise, the people rallied in their respective States to make choice of their Representatives in this their First Congress under the new Federal system, and the Legislatures of the several States proceeded also to elect

their first National Senators. Slowly and not without a seeming of backwardness and diffidence did the great historic body get together and go about its mighty task of building up from the very bottom, on a plan prefixed and wholly novel, a vast and complex Republican Empire. On the appointed day of meeting, the 4th of March, 1789, only eight Senators and thirteen Representatives were in attendance. Gradually other members came, but so scatteringly that it was as late as the first of April before a quorum appeared in the Lower House, and five days later still before there was one in the Senate, nor was it until the 30th of the month that Washington was installed and the new Government ready to go to work.

In the illustrious assemblage of tried, picked men with whom Gen. Jackson now saw himself associated in the National service, there was not a younger politician to be found than himself. So he himself tells us in one of his speeches.* And yet those who will follow him, as I have done, through the volumes containing the debates of that memorable, three-sessioned Congress, will perceive that he carried with him into that body not only the exalted manly fervor and public spirit appropriate to his age, temperament and patriotic character, but also such thorough and various preparation of mind and knowledge, such accurate acquaintance with the subjects that had to be discussed, and such sense, talent and readiness in discussing them, in fine, such a judicious activity and such sound, enlightened views, as would have done honor to gray

*Gales' Debates of the First Congress, vol. 1, page 1,266.

Benton's Abr. Debates, vol. 1, page 216.

hairs and veteran statesmanship, and soon secured to him rank and consideration among his fellow-members. Keeping attention closely upon him throughout this, his two-years' Congressional novitiate, we at times cannot help feeling wonder, as in the very parallel case of Alexander Hamilton, that under all the actual circumstances of his whole preceding life he should have been able to make himself what he was in mental culture and discipline, and to have amassed such intellectual stores, especially of the political kind, as he showed himself to possess. Nothing but a very superior constitution of mind and nature, combined with high ambition and indefatigable energy, industry and application can explain the rare and interesting phenomenon.

But whilst he was thus devoting himself to his country's service and acquiring a proud name in Congress, intelligence reached him there toward the end of his term, of an event at home for which he was unprepared and which was well calculated to sting him to the quick and rouse all the lion in his nature. The 3d of January, 1791, was the time of the election for the next Representative term. Though standing again as a candidate, yet with a noble conscientiousness and full of trust in his strength with the people, he stirred not from his distant post of duty, but faithfully remained there—leaving his election to the care of his constituents. That care happened not to be adequate to the needs of the case. It did not prevent frauds and lawless irregularities, the result of which was that he was superseded, and Gen. Anthony Wayne, now become a citizen of Georgia, the famed

hero of Stony Point, the recoverer of Savannah and Lower Georgia from the British, the winner also of countless laurels at Brandywine, Germantown, Monmouth, and on other hard fought fields of the Revolution, was returned in his stead.

Perfectly characteristic was Gen. Jackson's dealing with the criminalities of this election, and particularly with the two most conspicuous criminals. His investigations, his denunciations and his vengeance were prompt and severe. The most outrageous villainy was that enacted in Camden county by Osborne, Judge of the Superior Court, who, after the close of the regular election in the day-time, not satisfied with the result, got possession of the legal returns and substituted therefor during the night the forged returns of a sham election. Short breathing time had he to exult over the success of this foul perpetration. The very next Legislature saw him arraigned for the crime, impeached by the House of Representatives, dragged before the Senate, tried convicted and expelled from office,—the only precedent of the kind in any case higher than that of a Land Lottery Commissioner that has ever occurred in the State. The other worst iniquity was practiced in Effingham county. It consisted of illegal management of the election and some illegal voting besides, under the inimical counsel and influence of Thomas Gibbons, a man of very strong, determined character and great courage and ability, and much noted throughout a long and prosperous after-life, though never engaged in any but private and professional pursuits. He quitted Savannah, where he lived, and repaired to Effingham for the purpose of

working there in the election against Gen. Jackson. It was the terrible denunciations which the part he thus acted brought down upon him from Gen. Jackson in his speech before the House of Representatives contesting the election, that, doubtless, led to the duel and 'the three shots' between them of which Mr. Spalding makes mention.*

The Congress to which Gen. Wayne was returned assembled on the 24th of October, 1791. At the end of a week from that date we find him in his seat as a member where he had been but a fortnight when he was disturbed by Gen. Jackson appearing and contesting his right to that seat. The contest lasted several months, Gen. Wayne remaining in his seat and exercising full Representative functions all the while. The investigations were thorough and brought out abundant proof that the General's election was illegal but none whatever implicating the General himself in any of the illegal means by which it had been effected. Nor was there ever any imputation against him personally in connection with the election. It was the not uncommon case of a candidate's partizans without his participation or privity doing wrong things and going criminal lengths for him from which he himself would have revolted. No final action was reached by the House till late in March when a decision was pronounced setting aside both the contestants, declaring a vacancy and calling for a new election, at which Mr. Milledge was chosen, neither Gen. Wayne or Gen.

* For a report of all the facts touching this election and of Gen. Jackson's speech, see Clarke's Book of Congressional contested elections—pp. 47-68.

Jackson entering the lists as a candidate, and so both these very eminent and meritorious men were sent into retirement.

But their exile was short and more than compensated by their being each soon called to a more exalted and important sphere of public employment. Gen. Wayne, than whom no truer son of Mars ever intensified the splendor of the American arms, being solicited by Washington, almost immediately resumed the sword and went at once to that inveterate theatre of Indian hostilities and British tamperings on the Lake frontier where our armies had for years been so unlucky, and there in August, 1794, at the great battle of the Miami of the Lakes, the greatest and most memorable in all our annals of Indian warfare, repaired the disasters of Harmar and St. Clair and by a bloody arbitrament opened the way to that permanent Indian peace in the North-West which Washington was, as we have seen heretofore,* successful, by peaceful diplomatic means, in bringing about the South and South-West. This signal and priceless triumph of Wayne's generalship shone the more brilliantly under the dark contrast of the defeat of his predecessors and it may be regarded, too, somewhat as a death halo settling on his brow, as it was the last fighting exploit of a life that was not to last much longer. For he survived but two years more, dying in the service and at his post on the Indian frontier, Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the United States. So it is inscribed on the monument erected to him at his birthplace in

* In the article on the Oconee War, Part I.

Chester, Pennsylvania, by his brethren of the Society of the Cincinnati.

And he died also still a citizen and a cherished adopted son of Georgia. For in passing from her service into that of the United States, he passed not from her embrace nor lost his domicile, at once tribute of gratitude and memorial of honor, on her soil. He thoroughly won her devotion when as second in command to Gen. Greene* in the South, he had wrought out the full deliverance of the State from the enemy towards the close of the Revolution. And in fact the successes of Greene and Wayne in the extreme South had nearly as much to do in bringing the war to a close as the more impressive and celebrated triumph of Washington over Cornwallis in Virginia. As a consequence of these great Southern services, Wayne as well as Greene was remembered by Georgia when peace came, and she acknowledged her heavy debt to him by bestowing on him a fine estate near Savannah on the soil he had rescued. And hence like Gen. Greene he was led to make Georgia his home. The precise time of his coming I have no means of fixing, but it was certainly later than the year 1787, for we find him in the last months of that year still a citizen of Pennsylvania, and serving as a delegate in her Convention called to ratify the new Federal Constitution. That he should have become Gen. Jackson's opponent for Congress was undoubtedly a circumstance of a nature to inspire regret at the time of its occurrence, and for a long while afterwards. For it was just one

* See his speech on Mrs. Greene's Claims, I. Vol. Benton's Abr. 335-6.

of those contests in which our grief over the party that should be defeated was incapable of compensation by any joy that we could feel at the success of his rival. That grief too was in this case not a little exasperated and tinctured with resentment on account of the reprehensible means by which success had been achieved. But here again we take comfort, for that General Wayne was personally untouched by the foul arts employed in his behalf and stands clear of reproach alike from the public and his own conscience and his wronged and irritated competitor. And now at this remote day looking back on the whole affair and seeing how it proved eventually harmless alike to the two Generals and the country, it cannot be otherwise than that the present generation of the people of Georgia, filially avaricious of every ray of honor that can be counted to her brow, must feel pride at such a spectacle in her history as Anthony Wayne attracted by her generous love and gratitude to become one of her citizens, and as such suing for her suffrages as a candidate for Congress and actually serving her for nearly five months as a Representative in Congress, blameless himself in being there, however great the blame of others for the means used to put him there.

He was born early in the year 1745, which made him older than Gen. Jackson by more than a dozen years. Like Jackson he was of good ancestry, of superior soldierly stock particularly, his grandfather having fought with reputation as the commander of a squadron under King William III. at the Battle of the Boyne, in 1690, and his father having been distinguished as well in expeditions against the Indians



BRIG. GENL. ANTHONY WAYNE.

Anthony Wayne

as in civil affairs in Pennsylvania in the Colonial times. And that he inherited the martial temper and bravery and the strong military bent of his race was manifest not only by all his actions and career, but is strikingly visible in his very looks and lineaments, heroic and spirited in the highest degree, as they have come down to us on canvass. His early advantages were of a high order and were so well improved that we may set him down as having had an education ample for the purposes of a life of activity and distinction either in peace or war. It is not surprising that these advantages aided by family and connexion, by superior endowments of mind and person, by the winning power of a promising, aspiring young manhood and by his noble ardor and forwardness from the very first in the cause of the uprising colonies, should have obtained for him at the beginning of the war a position, which the youthful and orphan Jackson with all his merits did not succeed in reaching till near its end,—that of a Coloneley. In this grade, however, though so honorable to a man of only thirty-one years, Wayne did not linger long. February, 1777, saw him a Brigadier-General, in which rank it was that he made his name resplendent and immortal, covering it with a Revolutionary glory second only to what was earned by Washington himself and by Gen. Greene. *He became a Major-General not until 1792, when Washington sent him, as we have just seen, at the head of the army to conquer a peace and which, in the very teeth of the British intrusion and instigation, he did most triumphantly

* White's Statistics. Title—Jackson County.

succeeded in conquering not from one, two or three Indian Nations only, but from all the Northwestern tribes combined.

Whilst Gen. Wayne was thus reaping for himself and his country an overflowing recompense for the loss of his seat in the House of Representatives, Gen. Jackson also soon saw himself made more than whole by a proud amends. The very next Legislature after his exclusion from the Lower House conferred upon him a seat in the Senate of the United States for a full term, commencing on the 4th of March, 1793. When he had been in that elevation but two years, he heeded the cry of the people calling upon him to disrobe himself and come down at once to their help against the Yazoo Fraud. His ready obedience gave the country example of a resignation the noblest on record, and inculcated a lesson which noble natures only will be ever quick to feel and imbibe, that there are some occasions discernible by such natures which render humility a sublime practical virtue, and make it more glorious to descend with a magnanimous alacrity to the lowlier posts of public service than to cling with tenacious pride and self-love to the higher and more shining ones. What he had to do in the matter for which he resigned and how he acquitted himself therein, we have already sufficiently seen, and seen also how after finishing that task, he otherwise faithfully and ably served Georgia at home until the time came when she sent him once more to represent her in the National Senate contemporaneously with Mr. Jefferson's accession to the Presidency. Death found him in that position and at his post on the 19th of

March, 1806. All that was mortal of him is still inhumed at the Federal capital, and the citizens of Georgia who would look upon his grave and the simple stone that marks it can to this day only do so by a pilgrimage to the Congressional burying ground at Washington City. By no monument, statute or even portrait has Georgia ever done homage to the man who from his dawn of youth to his death served her with so much devotion and brought her so much honor and benefit, and whose name on the whole sheds more lustre on her history than any other on its page—a lustre which is destined to brighten under the test of time and contemplation—a man, too, who loved her so intensely as to cause him to exclaim that if, when he died, his heart should be opened and examined, her name would be found imprinted there.* Yet happily his likeness remains to us and those who yearn to know what manner of man he was to the eye, need but to turn to the American Portrait Gallery in order to gaze upon the noble, intellectual, *spirituelle* countenance and the thinking, high-bred, cultured looks and expression that belonged to him.

In estimating Gen. Jackson and awarding him the pre-eminence among the proud names which are the especial growth of Georgia, regard should be had to him as a whole. We must study him in all his elements, qualities and relations, in all his actions and situations. In some particulars there may be named those whom he cannot be said to surpass or even equal. But then there is to be seen belonging to him a signal felicity in which he stands alone,—a felicity consisting in his *tout ensemble* of virtues, talents, and merits,

*White's Statistics. Title—Jackson County.

moral and intellectual, martial and political, heroic,—civic, chivalrous,—conferring on him a glory composite alike of peace and war, and which rises to the beautiful and sublime in both, though in what it derives from peace it is more fortunate even than in what it owes to war, in that its peaceful part furnishes an impressive, ever-speaking example and lesson to his countrymen, exhorting to purity, rectitude and true wisdom in public affairs, and urging relentlessly to the undoing, crushing and preventing of all public turpitude and profligacy.

STORY OF AUSTIN DABNEY,

FROM GILMER'S GEORGIANS, PAGE 212.

Many years before the Revolutionary war, a Virginia gentleman of the old school resided upon his plantation not many miles from Richmond. He was a bachelor of long standing, who indulged in card-playing, drinking, horse-racing, and other dissolute practices. His wealth consisted in a large landed estate and many negroes. No white person lived with him except a little girl whose parentage was unknown; when the bachelor gentleman left home upon his frolics, this little girl remained under the care of a negro mammy. She grew up until she ceased to be a child, knowing scarcely any one except the bachelor, and the negroes of his household. Suddenly and secretly the old gentleman left his plantation taking her with him. He went to North Carolina, where he remained some time with a man by the name of Aycock. Aycock afterwards removed to Georgia along with the emigrants from North Carolina, who first settled Wilkes county, carrying with him a mulatto boy.

When the contest between the Whigs and Tories became a struggle for the lives and liberty of all who favored the cause of freedom, Aycock was called upon to do his part in defending his fireside. From the time when he was required to fight he saw a terrible Tory constantly pointing a loaded gun at him. Fearing to face the danger he offered as a substitute his mulatto boy, then transformed into a stout lad. He had previously passed as his slave. He acknowledged

that he was not, when he found that he would not otherwise be received as a soldier. The mulatto was accordingly enrolled in a captain's company by the name of Austin Dabney. No soldier under Clark was braver or did better service during the revolutionary struggle. In the battle of Kettle Creek, the hardest ever fought in Georgia between the Whigs and Tories, Austin Dabney was shot down, and left on the battle-ground very dangerously wounded. He was found, carried home, and cared for by a man of the name of Harris. It was long before Austin Dabney recovered. Gratitude for the kindness which he had received became the ruling feeling of his heart. He worked for Harris and his children, and served them more faithfully and efficiently than any slave ever served a master. He moved with them from Wilkes county to Madison soon after the latter county was organized. He sent his benefactor's oldest son to school, and afterwards to college, by the hard earnings of his own hands. He lived upon the poorest food, and wore old patched clothes, that he might make young Harris a gentleman. When his protegee left Franklin college, Austin Dabney placed him in the office of Stephen Upson, then at the head of the legal profession in upper Georgia. When he was examined at the superior court of Oglethorpe county, took the oath for admission to the bar, and received the fraternal shake of the hand from the members of the profession, Austin Dabney was standing outside leaning on the railing which inclosed the court, two currents of tears trickling down his mulatto face, from remembrance of the kindness which he had received,

and thankfulness for the power which had been given him to do something in return.

Stephen Upson was a member of the legislature when the surveys of public land which were too small to be drawn for in the lottery of 1819, were disposed of by law. Austin Dabney had not been permitted to have a chance in the lottery with the other soldiers of the revolutionary war. Stephen Upson used his controlling influence in the legislature to procure the passage of a law giving to Austin Dabney a valuable fraction. One of the members from Madison county voted for the law. At the next election, his constituents were excited into the hottest party contest by this conduct of their representative. They said that it was an indignity to white men for a mulatto to be put upon an equality with them in the distribution of the public land, though not one had done such long and useful public service. The United States Government allowed Austin Dabney a pension on account of his thigh, which was broken at the battle of Kettle Creek. He went once a year to Savannah to draw what was due him. On one occasion he traveled thither with Colonel Wiley Pope. They were very intimate and social on the road, and until they entered the streets of Savannah. As they were passing along through the city, Colonel Pope observed to Austin Dabney, that he was a sensible man, and knew the prejudices which forbade his associating with him in city society. Austin Dabney checked his horse, and fell in the rear after the fashion of mulatto servants following their masters. They passed by the house of General James Jackson, then Governor of the State.

He was standing in his door at the time. Colonel Pope passed on without notice. Recognizing Austin Dabney, he ran into the street, seized him by the hand, drew him from his horse, and carried him into his house, where he continued his guest whilst business kept him in Savannah.

It was very strange that Austin Dabney, who never knew his grandfather, should have inherited the taste of the Virginia gentlemen for horse-racing. He owned fine horses, attended the race course, entered the list for the stake, and betted with all the eagerness of a professional sportsman. It was Austin Dabney's custom to be at the tavern when Judge Dooly arrived at Danielsville to hold Madison court. He held the judge's horse until he got from his carriage, then held his hand most affectionately. The judge's father had died in the Whig cause. Austin was always an adherent of the son, without regard to party politics. In the evening after the adjournment of court, he usually went into the room occupied by the judge and the lawyers, where, taking a low seat, he listened to what was said, or himself told of the stirring incidents of the struggle between the Whigs and the Tories in upper Georgia and South Carolina. His memory was retentive, his understanding good, and he described what he knew well. Harris, Austin Dabney's protege moved away from Madison county. Austin Dabney went with him, and continued to give him his devoted personal services and his property as long as he lived.

James Jackson, the seventh son of Thomas M. Gilmer and Elizabeth Lewis, was named after General Jackson, of Georgia, whom everybody admitted to be a brave man and devoted patriot. —*Governor Gilmer's Georgians*, page 19.

FROM W. H. SPARK'S "THE MEMORIES OF
FIFTY YEARS."

Page 31. James Jackson, a young, ardent, and talented man, who had in very early life, by his abilities and high character, so won the public confidence that he had been elected Governor of the State, when he was ineligible because of his youth, was at this time a member of congress. He made a tour through the State, preaching a crusade against the corrupt legislature, and denouncing those who had produced and profited by this corruption, inflaming the public mind almost to frenzy. He resided in Savannah, and was at the head of the Republican or Jeffersonian party, which was just then being organized in opposition to the administration of John Adams, the successor of Washington.

Page 32. His Shibboleth was, that the disgrace of the State must be wiped out by the repeal of the Yazoo act; and *repeal* rang from every mouth from Savannah to the mountains. Jackson resigned his seat in United States senate, and was elected a member of the Georgia legislature. Immediately upon the assembling of this body, a bill was introduced repealing the odious act, and ordering the records containing it to be burned. This was carried out to the letter, Jackson, heading the legislature and the indignant public, proceeded in procession to the public square in Louisville, Jefferson county, where the law and the fagots were piled; when, addressing the assem-

bled multitude, he denounced the men who had voted for the law as bribed villains—those who had bribed them, and the governor who had signed it; and declared that fire from heaven only could sanctify the indignation of God and man in consuming the condemned record of accursed crime. Then, with a Promethean or convex glass condensing the sun's rays, he kindled the flame which consumed the records containing the hated Yazoo act.

Jackson was a man of ordinary height, slender, very erect in his carriage, with light hair and intensely blue eyes. His manners were courteous, affable, and remarkable for a natural dignity which added greatly to his influence with the people. He was the model from which was grown that chivalry and nobility of soul and high bearing so characteristic of the people of Southern Georgia. In truth, the essence of his character seemed subtly to pervade the entire circle in which he moved, inspiring a purity of character, a loftiness of honor, which rebuked with its presence alone everything that was low, little, or dishonest. Subsequently he was elected Governor of the State, bringing all the qualities of his nature into the administration of the office; he gave it a dignity and respectability never subsequently degraded.

Page 65. In the low country of Georgia, the fiat of James Jackson fixed the political fate of every young aspirant.

Page 66. Jackson had his proteges, and they were always marked for talent. In early life he discerned the germ of great abilities in two youths of Savannah—George M. Troup and Thomas U. P. Charlton.

Through his influence, these young men, almost as soon as eligible, were sent to the legislature of the State, and both immediately took high positions. Talent was not the only requisite to win and retain the favor of Jackson: the man must be honest, and that honesty of such a character as placed him above suspicion.

Under the operation of the confiscation act, many who had favored the mother country in the Revolutionary struggle had fled with their property to Florida. Conspicuous among these was one Campbell Wiley, a man of fortune. This man applied to the legislature to be specially exempted from the penalties of this act, and to be permitted to return to the State. A heated debate ensued, when the bill was being considered, in which Charlton was silent, and in which Troup made a violent speech in opposition to its passage, ending with the sentence: "If ever I find in my heart to forgive an old Tory his sins, I trust my God will never forgive me mine." This speech gave him immediate popularity over the entire State.

A BRITISH POINT OF VIEW.

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NOVEMBER 8, 1781.

PUBLISHED IN SAVANNAH, GA., BY JAMES JOHNSTON.

Last Friday morning the Rebel Col. Jackson, with about 200 men, made an attack on Capt. Johnston's post at Great Ogeechee, but was soon obliged to retire with the loss of Captains Grant and Lucas, and several privates. Col. Campbell, who commanded at Ogeechee, and whose quarters were half a mile distant, marched on the first alarm with the dragoons of his own regiment and Col. Brown's, under the command of Captain Wyley. Joining Capt. Johnston, he proceeded with 85 dragoons in quest of the enemy, who he found advantageously drawn up at the edge of a swamp. Col. Campbell attempted to draw the Rebels out, but finding that the superiority of their numbers (being more than two to one) did not give them confidence enough to venture in the open field, he ordered an immediate charge, which was executed with that spirited firmness which will always insure victory, and reflect lasting honour on every one concerned. The Rebels being twice charged through retreated in great confusion, leaving many of their dead on the field. The pursuit was continued near four miles, and the country

people who have since come in declare that the Rebel wounded and dead are to be seen in many places 12 miles from the field of action. Our loss was 12 killed and some wounded, among the first was the gallant Cornet Hardenbrook of Col. Campbell's dragoons, who fell gloriously in the first charge. The loyal country people are daily taking prisoners; They have brought in Capt. Bugg of the Rebel dragoons and several privates and have intelligence of many more that are skulking in the swamps.

It is with the utmost horror we mention, that, after the signal repulse of the Rebels at Capt. Johnston's post on Friday last, the whole of their force proceeded to the plantation of James Butler, Esq., where about 15 militiamen were posted; they set fire to that gentleman's dwelling-house, and finding Capt. Howell (brother to the famous picaroon of that name) in it sick, and unable to extricate himself from the flames, they dragged him out, and barbarously murdered him in the yard. Capt. Goldsmith, Mr. Dunbar Gray, Mr. Mackinon, Mr. John Lemar, and Mr. Stephen Christopher, here unfortunately fell into their ruffian hands, and were soon after murdered in cold blood; Capt. Goldsmith, a gentleman against whom the rebels could have nothing to allege but an ever firm attachment to the British government, was most inhumanly butchered by Samuel West, who, for this and his many other crimes, will in due time meet with an ample reward. Capt. Paddy Carr, remarkable for his being concerned in many murders committed on the loyal

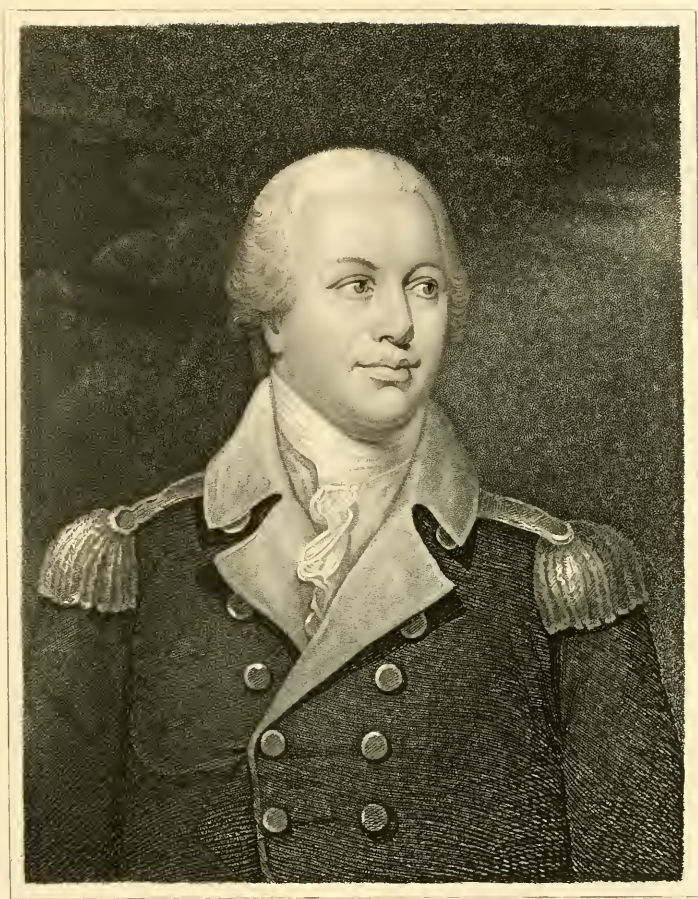
inhabitants of this province, is missed by the Rebels, and we hope is among the slain.

The severe check the rebels have received from the heroic Col. Campbell, and the brave officers and men he had the honor to command in the engagement of Friday last, must deter them from making incursions in future into the settlements of the loyal inhabitants of this province, who entertain a grateful sense of, and cannot too much applaud the services of the army on that occasion.*

*LETTER FROM GENERAL WAYNE TO GENERAL JACKSON, ANNOUNCING THE DEATH OF GENERAL GREENE.

“My Dear Sir:—I have often wrote you, but never on so distressing an occasion. My dear friend General Greene is no more. He departed this morning, six o'clock A.M. He was great as a soldier, greater as a citizen,—immaculate as a friend. His corpse will be at Major Pendleton's this night; the funeral from thence in the evening. The honors—the greatest honors of war are due his remains. You, as a soldier, will take the proper order on this melancholy affair. Pardon this scrawl, my feelings are but too much affected, because I have seen a great and good man die.

*For American account of above, see Charlton's *Life of Jackson*, pages 36 and 37. McCall's *Hist. of Ga.* vol. 2, pages 393, 394. Stevens' *Hist. of Ga.* vol. 2, pages 269 and 270. White's *Hist. Coll.*, page 220.



MAJOR GENERAL NATHANIEL GREENE.

Nathaniel

FROM SHERWOOD'S GAZETEER OF GEORGIA,
PUBLISHED IN PHILADELPHIA IN
1829, PAGE 210.

Gen James Jackson was born in the county of Devon, England, in 1757. He came to Georgia in 1772, and soon after commenced the study of law, in the office of Judge Walton, in Savannah. He had imbibed, under the paternal roof, a love of freedom and a detestation of every species of injustice and oppression; and seconded as these early impressions were by an ardent intrepidity of character, it is not surprising that he became interested in all the occurrences that preceded the revolutionary struggle. From the actual commencement of the contest to the time of the relinquishment of Savannah by the British troops, he was incessantly engaged in the active duties of the soldier, took part in most of the principal engagements, and was selected by Gen. Greene as the commander of the Georgia Legion.

After the close of the war, Mr. Jackson resumed the profession of law, and displayed at the bar the same activity and talent which had characterized him as a soldier. He was elected yearly to the State Legislature; and so rapidly did his popularity increase, that, in 1788, he was chosen Governor, when only 31 years of age. This honor he, however, declined. In 1789, he was elected a member of the first Congress after the adoption of the Federal Constitution, and continued as Representative or Senator till 1796,

when he resigned his seat in the Senate, at the public request of his old constituents in Chatham, in order to oppose in our Legislature the infamous Yazoo speculation. In this he completely succeeded; and the overthrow of this gigantic and unexampled act of public corruption, may be attributed principally to his energy, talent, and personal influence.*

In 1798 Gen. Jackson was again elected Governor, and in 1801 once more sent back to the United States Senate, where he continued until his death. He died at Washington in March, 1806.

An individual who feels, and ought to feel, tenderly alive for the reputation of Gen. Jackson, writes me that he was a member of the Legislature when the Charter of Incorporation for our College was passed. I searched the Journals of the House for the year 1785; and though I found Mr. Baldwin's name there, Gen. Jackson's, if he were in the Legislature that year, must have been overlooked; I could

*At its session in Augusta, on the 7th January, 1795, an act was passed, selling to certain individuals (who had bribed the Legislature for that purpose) several thousand acres of land on the Yazoo river, in the western part of Georgia, now Mississippi, and for which \$500,000 were to be paid. Through the influence of Jackson and others, that act was repealed at Louisville on the 13th February, 1796, and all the acts burned by fire from heaven. In the repealing act persons who had paid money were at liberty to withdraw it in the space of eight months. Accordingly, \$300,000 were withdrawn from the Treasury by claimants, and the balance was transferred to the United States government, in consequence of their having engaged to compromise with these claimants. It has been published that Georgia retained the money in her treasury and yet kept the lands; but it is a mistake, and a slander on the character of the State.

not find it. Mr. Stevens was Chairman of the College Committee.

Gen. Jackson was instrumentally concerned in almost all the important measures that have since given prosperity to the State. He possessed an influence in the State, which, it may be said in truth, no man will again enjoy in a superior degree. As a political opponent, he was liberal and generous, so long as difference of opinion merely separated parties; but when he discovered the motives of his opponents to be SELFISH, he did not hesitate to let them know his sentiments, both publicly and privately.

Personal letters of Major General James Jackson, to Governor John Milledge, now in possession of Mrs. Catherine Habersham Milledge, and kindly loaned to the publisher by her son, Colonel John Milledge.

Friday evening.

DEAR MILLEDGE:

For fear you should forget the notification of Father Boyd, who I understand advertised you of the ceremony to be performed by him on Sunday, I once more summons you to that Sacrament, with a Fail not, on pain of Ecclesiastical D——n——. It is true, that I do not possess this power, but the parson does; and I can moreover go so far as this, to-wit: I can read over all the curses of the Romish Church against you (as laid down in the noted work of our old friend, Tristram Shandy) in case of obstinacy.

Mrs. Jackson will be happy in Mrs. Milledge's company, as I shall be in yours, to dine. The ceremony will take place at five o'clock.

Yours sincerely, JAS. JACKSON.

Honorable JNO. MILLEDGE.

AUGUSTA, November 7, 1792.

MY DEAR MILLEDGE:

I left Savannah under a breach of friendship & promise. I was to have given you letters to some of my friends and I had not gone far before I cruelly remembered it; it was, however, too late. I met no opportunity down, and to have left a packet, in my hand, directed

to you at any of the Taverns was running too great a risk. I had no way left but of embracing the present opportunity—the first post from this place after my arrival. I can, however, now only apologize for my neglect, as by the time you receive this you will have no need of introduction.

Our Friend Baldwin, who is certainly one of the most obliging Men on Earth, & clever at everything, will have introduced you to all who may be worthy of your acquaintance. I more regret my not giving you letters for New York than for Philadelphia, in the former place you needed them perhaps—at the latter your public station would soon make you known. I have one thing particularly to request of you, not to think my Friends the less for a neglect which has sufficiently hurted me in my own feelings.

I was taken extremely ill on the road to Augusta—so much so that I was obliged to keep my bed on my arrival here until yesterday. I am now fast recovering, and one of my first employments is what I am now writing. Both Houses have met. Taliaferro, President of the Senate, Big Billy Speaker, the Big Colonel of Senatorial Dignity, the quondam Judge, the acquitted Doctor, the Cutter Commander, the Revenue Surveyor, &c., &c., are all here in Majestic Council, to preserve the seat of their favourite, Big Tom, who totters amazingly, and will, we are all very apprehensive, return to Chatham for a second term. The Committee have reported that an investigation ought to take place—notwithstanding all the endeavours of so many Porter House Politicians, the Party won't do.

If you are acquainted with Colonel Parker and Mr. Giles of Virginia, and Messrs. Grove, Macon, and Ash of North Carolina, present my regards to them in particular—to all who ask otherwise about me, be so good as to present them generally. You will no doubt find some who will not only not ask about me but who would not care if the devil had me.

General Matthews is set up by Gunn, &c., as a Senator. Four of us stayed—Few, Houston, Matthews and myself. My Friends tell me to arrange, but I shall neither Boot nor Spur until I see the election over. As I wrote my Friend Baldwin and told you, I would not have started if Colonel Few had no other opponent, and I now pray if I do not, Few may get it, but I am told by all he cannot if I do not.

This is post night; you shall hear more from me next post. So charging you once more to pardon my neglect at Savannah, and to present my sincere regards to Mr. Baldwin and old Landlady, if you are there, I am my Dr Milledge, sincerely,

Your Friend and Servant,

JAS. JACKSON.

Honble. JOHN MILLEDGE.

LOUISVILLE, Feb. 23d, 1798.

DEAR MILLEDGE :

I received your favor of the 25th ultimo yesterday and thank you for the political sketches contained.

I am here in the big chair and fixed down by the heels for two Years to come; as you are such a noisy pack in Congress, it may keep me out of some scrapes.

by being in it, but I assure you the office feels awkward. Your Excellency sounds well, but I am not yet trained to it, and frequently look round me to find the person it is addressed to, when pop comes into my head the big chair. I would give any consideration to be back again at Cedar Hill on a common Windsor, snuffing the oderiferous air of the rice swamps.

What the Devil have you done to our senior Senator? He has sent on a publication to McMillan about your absence with a list of Invalids, some of whom are no more so than I am—saying that if you had attended in your place, the amendment admitting them would have been made in your House. He warns the people against brushing certain persons, which is evidently leveled at you. Have you quarrelled or have you ripped up the Session when he was in Senate but three days and did so much mischief? or further have you charged him about the Stamp Act? If you have done neither, I think it unwarrantable and deserving of retaliation by observing on these subjects in reply. It is a most wanton attack, not only on you, but Mr. B. Berrien sends it you or I should.

The Commissioners or rather Inquisitors who are to come here, will hear nothing which they like. The Indians since the line has been run have been as troublesome as ever; the line was finished the 2d instant—& exclusive of robberies—on the 5th, as I wrote the representation, Mrs. Hilton was ravished—on the 11th Nicholas Vines was murdered, and on the 14th one William Allen of Washington was murdered, all on this side of the line. As to Foreign influence I believe the eastern States possess an

abundance more of it than Georgia, tho' theirs may be the current of the day. I will venture to assert that our Citizens would fight any power at war with the United States, but I fear all to the North of North River would hesitate, if that war were with Great Britain. We have some plantations left out as well as Tennessee, but it is doubtful if we succeed. What can it mean that any State but Georgia can obtain Cessions?

The speculators are in Jail, you say—not all by your own account of one of the biggest about to leave his Seat to recorrupt the people. I think he might as well stay where he is—and God send they were all in perfect security in the best prepared house for their reception in Philadelphia.

What has Mr. Henry done to be discarded? Has he honesty enough to think we are driving too fast to the Well-born ballance and therefore is too lax against the Antis?

You have not surprised me about the Post Master. I have long since discovered that Ca Ira was turning into God save the K—g, and flinging of bottles, into Courtiers' bows, and Orations Francaise into damn—d French buj—s. Wonderful, wonderful human creatures! Man can change his sentiments and lick the Foot that kicks him for the most trifling cure. Place the most Frenchified Jacobin in the Offices of the United States, and he immediately signs hallulejah to Great Britain. Monroe is an exception, and he smarts for it.

I thank you for your loot at the lottery tickets.

They surely must be prizes they are so long a coming—that is if they come at all.

You have made me happy in the prospect of my worthy friend, Mr. Findley's going to take our good landlady to wife. Be pleased to present my congratulations & best wishes on the occasion—if they have, as I believe, some little remembrance of me. I beg I may stand God-father by proxy for the first boy—a Girl is too great a charge & I should in that case wait for the second appearance; but I insist on standing for the first Boy even supposing it should be the seventh child. I wish them many more, but as I represent but one State I would not venture to take so solemn a charge of more than one.

My family is not yet in this place. I shall in about three weeks go for them. I have settled my Rocky Comfort tract & have a House in Town & mean to reside here for a time; altogether it is a most healthy spot & I am in hopes will recruit my dear John who is still extremely low. I received a letter yesterday from Mrs. Jackson who is, as well as the other part of the family, fast recruiting.

When you return I must request you as formerly to run into a temporary expense for me—I mean for my Encyclopedia. I am now pretty much bound to you, but am compelled to draw again on your Friendship.

Remember me to Mr. Gregg as well as Mr. Findley, for both of whom I have a sincere regard. Your House is so new faced that I scarcely remember another but your colleague, to remember to. Do let me hear the determination on our remonstrance I wish

it may be accommodating. I inclose the resolutions of James Jones to the Delegation by which you will learn that Georgia is for accomodation. Tell the old Lady I frequently think of the Family ;

& believe me, D^r Milledge,

Y^r Friend & servt,

JAMES JACKSON.

HONORABLE JOHN MILLEDGE.

I write to the Seery. of War by this post acquainting him of the murder of Allen, & requesting the liberty of calling out a few mounted Militia, till the alarm subsides, and also desiring a change of the post for Louisville. It is the capital and the main post ought to come directly to it instead of going to Augusta & by Waynesborough—it would save two days in the progress. Tell Tattnal I have received his letter & will write him fully next post ; I have not time by this. Tell him I do not like his Colleagues being on the Committee on our remonstrance in Senate. Do push the Militia claims.

The Honorable JOHN MILLEDGE Esq.

Representative

in Congress,

by post.

Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, December 26, 1793.

DRAR MILLEDGE:

I suppose by this you have returned from the Assembly, and that your political campaign is over for the season ; we have just got the business of ours entering on, with calmness and serenity among the mem-

bers, and amidst alarms and troubles from abroad. We are indeed, at a crisis, very important to the United States. Mother Britain is doing everything she can to injure our trade, and there is little doubt but she has placed the United States in their disagreeable situation with the Algerines. It is also pretty clear, that the Truce, agreed on between Portugal and Algiers, to effect that purpose, was concluded by the British Consul, Mr. Lojie, without the approbation of the Court of Portugal, or an intimation of his intention, until effected. Spain is firmly leagued with England against us. On the other hand, our situation with respect to France is critical. Genet, the Minister of that Nation, has acted imprudently, and is obnoxious to all our Executive Officers—the President in a message to both Houses, calls him contemptuously the *person* representing the French nation. Our Minister (Mr. Morris) to the French Republick, is full as obnoxious to that nation, and is a strong Aristocrat—openly avowing his sentiments in favor of the deceased Louis, and censuring the proceedings of the National convention—keeping up the state and Grandeur with the necessary hauteur of a Royal embassy. Mutual sparrings are daily taking place between Genet and our Officers of Departments, some of which, you must have, before this, republished in the Savannah papers. Hammond has also on the part of Britain, held a long correspondence with Mr. Jefferson, complaining of partialities to France; and Viar, to crown all has sent in his Budget, abusing our poor little State in the most cruel manner, making us appear Assassins, Robbers and invaders of

Spanish territory—for they have the Assurance to continue their old claim of one-half our State, and say that the Creeks are totally under their protection, and solely liable to their regulations. Jefferson in his answer, has confuted all their objections, and with a strength of reasoning, peculiar to himself, has made Boys of them all. I am sorry to say, that our Agent has added to the complaints against us in language far too strong, and too general. The words *these Georgians* frequently occur. Our damned policy, has always injured us, and every little newspaper paragraph in the Savannah or Augusta Gazettes, blaming our frontier settlers is siezed hold of to injure us, and it is true, does injure us—it is viewed in the light of confession, and the declaration of the State, and as such the best evidence against us. Three or four volumes of abuse from Knox and Gaither, the Agent, Freeman and others, are now before both Houses. I have no particular enmity against Mr. S., but he assuredly has been as violent one way, as our Ned on the other, and the whole State ought not to bear the blame of Mr. Telfair's politics, which it does in several of his communications. I write you this in confidence. Jefferson is about to resign, and his resignation will be almost universally regretted; we are at a loss to know who will succeed him.

We shall carry the question of Suability; the amendment will be left to the different States, to ratify by the next session. It is not yet brought forward, but there appears to be little doubt of success. An amendment already brought forward by Mr. Taylor of Virginia, will I fear, not meet the same success

although it will deserve it ; it is to prevent Directors and Stockholders in the Bank of the United States, from being eligible to Seats in Congress, and thereby preventing their power of voting moneys, and loans for their own individual gain.

A communication from Humphreys and our Friend Church, is just arrived, and I am happy to tell you, that America has one friend, in her mad Majesty of Portugal. She has ordered a convoy for our vessels, and has given orders to her Fleet in the Mediterranean to retake and redeliver, all Americans bound to or from her ports, at the time of capture, and the Nobles and Merchants of that Nation, are very much incensed with Britain for effecting the Truce, and have petitioned the Prince of Portugal against a ratification—thinking it degrading to the honor of the Portuguese Nation, and professing great attachment for the United States. The queen's answer, by her Minister, to Church, is very favorable ; so that we have one friend. Humphreys also says, that excuses are made at Gibraltar, by the British Officers for the part they are charged with, respecting the Algerines, and that Lojie has done all of his own accord, but this does not sound well. The unfortunate crews of Nine Vessels are gone into captivity, which has struck such a damp on Mariners, that most of the old Philadelphia Captains have declined their commands.

In answer to this long letter, do favor me with the proceedings of your Legislature, what laws were passed, and how matters go with the Creeks. I shall thank you for any intelligence, and any of your

thoughts, on subjects which may strike you as necessary from your observations of last session.

I am, Dr Milledge,

Yours most sincerely, JAS. JACKSON.

SAVANNAH, November 4, 1793.

DEAR MILLEDGE:

This is the day, the great, the important Day, big with governments and the fate of Georgia. The Bell of Christ's Church is knelling together the Corporation and Committee, who seem to have the State and publick good under their immediate care here, whilst I suppose, the ling, ting, ding, of the State House is convening the Magnates of the Nation, at Augusta, who may suppose they have almost as great a care of States and publick good on their shoulders, as our Wise heads. Not a Word of this to any one—why Man, it would be downright high Treason! as all the people are pledged, *vi et armis*, to put Committee law in force; and if you have read the resolutions, their Fatherly care extends not only to Savannah river, but throughout the State, Tybee Bar not excepted. I have experienced a little of this myself. It pleased our Ned, to send me upon a disagreeable errand to Camden; and were it not, as Corporal Trim remarks, that orders with Military Men must be obeyed, I would as soon have interferred between a Husband and his Wife, where the former was giving the latter moderate castigation, which you know is the sure way of getting both on your back, and which I pray God may not be my case, with the distracted parties of that

County. Having finished my business, as well as my abilities would permit, and I will say, in as disinterested a manner as any Officer could act, and having held an election for Field Officers in Glynn, I came out from St. Simon's on Wednesday last, and entered Tybee on Thursday evening—coming up to town with a flowing tide, and fine Wind. About twenty yards from the *Cutter* of the Revenue, we were hailed by Capt. Wood, with all the noisy courage of the Master of a press Gaby tender. "Come to, God damn you, or I'll fire into you." Bang goes a musquet! "It is General Jackson," says Saunders, "on publick duty, by order of Government!" "I don't care for General Jackson or General anybody—come to, God Damme!" "I am on publick duty, as well as yourself, Mr. Wood, and I cannot stop!" "Fire that Cannon into them!" "Captain Saunders, you shall not now stop; pass the Cutter!" "God damn you, why don't you fire, you damned rascal?" "You may fire and be damned, Mr. Wood," but the good Sailor did not fire, and the Deed will be recorded in Heaven, for Jenkins, who you know, is not scary, says it must have sunk us. As soon as by the Cutter, we lay to, amidst a thousand threats from Mr. Wood. Knowing his right to see our papers, I told him if he wanted to examine us, send his boat; this after many declarations he did, which ordered me alongside the Cutter. I reasoned with the officer, who seemed convinced; and leaving the heroick Mr. Wood foaming on the quarter deck, we wore round, and proceeded to town. Mitchel tells me, it is forty to one, if I am not called on, and perhaps at this moment, whilst you are chatting about making a Governor, and

I am giving you an account of this little frolick, the Committee are consulting about making me a prisoner. "I can't get out," said the Starling, would be a damned situation—but I fancy I shall hear no more about it, and I should not easily go in.

I shall hold you to the conversation we had together respecting my little petition. I really, my Friend, worked hard for it, and my increasing Family compels me to make the claim. Indeed Debts of that nature, are Debts which no Nation, or State on earth, can get rid of, but by discharge. Congress, notwithstanding so many acts of limitation, has thought so, by again opening the way to her own Soldiers; and she every Session orders particular liquidations, and notwithstanding delays by the party. My delay has only been injurious to myself—if liquidated in 1783 and funded, it would be now double. Purely, because I fought under the State banner, my services were not of less value, and therefore I ought not to be in a worse situation than those under the Continental banner, and I will venture to say, that we braved hardships experienced by few Troops on the Continent. I expect much opposition from I. Jones of Burke, and General Matthews; the former on account of his quarrel with my brother, the latter on account of my supporting you. Their great Fort will be, a resolution of the House of Assembly, of 30th July, 1782, giving me the House I live in, as they were pleased to say, for my meritorious Services. This was not asked for by me, and it is a droll kind of Gift, which cancels an obligation. Greene, and Wayne, and Clarke had gifts of much greater consequence, but they re-

ceived all their pay. If this does not hold, they will start an objection as fatal, that a general provision should be made, and thereby postpone it altogether; or if a Bill be brought forward, it will be but for a short period, and I have no prospect of a return from Congressional duty, for many Months if the whole Year; for there never was a period, which so much required their continuation together as a body. This would prevent my reaping advantage from it, if passed. As to an assumption, I always condemned and shall condemn the measure, but it certainly has taken off 300,000 Dollars of our State Debt, and enables the State at any rate, to do justice, even supposing another assumption may not take place, which I think is yet dubious. The Petition having passed the Senate, I think there is no occasion for its returning there; a decision in the house will be sufficient. I have no hold of Waldburger, but through you; the service I formerly rendered him, made no impression. They may glance once now and then on his mind, like the glaring flashes of Lightning on a benighted traveller; but they have no permanency. It would have gone through last Year but for him. There was a time when he knew me first, and when I loved him as fondly as Parent loved a Child, that I had no need of this pittance, and would not take the pains of writing three lines about it, and which is the true reason of my not making application at that period; but I have since fell among thieves. Washington has robbed me of one or two years' labors, and I have a large Family to provide for, and every expectation of its being larger, and the Justice of my claim is still

the same. If you are intimate with Fort, who I see is in the House of Representatives, before it comes on, speak to him.

My principal reliance is on Sam. Hammond & yourself. I have written to some of the Members, and know if it returns to Senate, I shall be certain of your exertions, as you thought it right. Indeed, I consider the Senate bound by their decision.

I am anxious to hear who is Governor. If General G., I expect to have your company. Struggle hard against anyone else. We can agree in sentiment and conduct.

I always write you long letters ; from the shortness of yours in common, I suppose I tire you—you take that method to prevent it. God bless you.

Y^r Friend and Servant,

JAS. JACKSON.

Honble. JOHN MILLEDGE, Esq.,

Augusta.

Do tell Whitefield that Miller cannot get up until Sunday Night, and to postpone the action Arden vs. Montrony until Monday Morning—do not forget it.

The Honorable JOHN MILLEDGE,

Senator from Chatham,

at Augusta.

WEDNESDAY, November 12, 1794.

DEAR MILLEDGE:

I suppose by this you have got to business, which is more than we have done in Senate ; and the House of Representatives tired of waiting have proceeded

themselves without us. I arrived here last Saturday, but should have been present on the Constitutional day, had I not as usual met a severe Gale between Lookout and the Frying Pan. We were in imminent danger, and for 12 hours had to beat to windward in 6, 7, 8, & 9 Fathom water, with a mountainous swell, in the bite between the two shoals. Commodore Bavey certainly saved our lives. To add to the horror, we discovered the breakers all round us, but at sunseting —& it was after daylight next morning, before we cleared the shoals—Bavey and myself chatted of our danger which he says, was as great as he ever experienced, with the calmness of reason, and concluded that if we could keep the sea until Daybreak, to cut away the Mainmast, & put her before the wind for some open part of the beach. We had our doubts of being able, however, to keep the sea, and continued shoaling our water until 12 o'clock, when after having almost relinquished every hope, we perceived a black Cloud arise from the North West, accompanied with terrible lightning & Thunder. This Providential interference conveyed us out to eleven Fathom, when the South, South East Wind, again attacked us with redoubled vigor; but fortunately we had got such an offing, as to get on the tail of Lookout Shoals. Off the Capes of Delaware we were attacked by a North Wester which split our Main Sail. If this had happened at Lookout, we must every soul have perished. I never made up my mind to die before, but I tasted of death at that time and feel a satisfaction when I reflect, that I was perfectly resigned. The vessel was old, & would not have borne two thumps,

previous to going to pieces, and her sails were of an equal age—we wondered how they kept together. I have ever since been thinking of an expression of Old Qua's in Savannah, a few days before I sailed—The rascal had the insolence to tell me to stay at home, & not fret myself about Publick—"What Publick care for you Massa? God! ye get drowned bye & bye. Qua tell you so, & what going come of he Family den?" Altho I doubted Qua's prophecy at the time, I began to suppose him entitled to a niche in prophets' corner.

I have really a good mind to follow his advice—leave Congress and Congress things, turn speculator and go snacks at home with the best of them. There is a damn sight more to be got by it, depend on it, & I have not got one sixpence ahead, since I undertook it—Such business is calculated for such as yourself with only a Wife to maintain, which the pay will do, but rely on it, it does not answer half the calls of a Wife and five Children. Baldwin wrote you last post day—I send this by Capt. Bender of the Brig, Fame, for Savannah, & it I expect will reach you nearly as soon as his—Baldwin did not give you a Broad hint of what Miss Sallie Cuyler told him, that you would soon have an application from the West Indies.—I dare say you can guess what took place in New York
 -----& so forth.

It is here publickly said that you are a Candidate for the Senate—King told me so, as soon as I entered the Senate room. I hope if you are successful, we shall make out to agree, but it is wonderful that I

should *hear* nothing of this rumored in Savannah, & it should be known here.

I have no News but what is contained in the enclosed papers, which has everything very late from Europe—The Carmagnoles are everywhere triumphant. As to Mother Britain—we can form no judgment of her, or our Envoy's conduct, until a Congress is formed, which I expect will not be for several days—The Senate is very unpopular, on account of the delay at so important a juncture, when every mind is intent on the delivery of the annual Presidential speech, now more eagerly expected than ever. I will write you, as soon as its contents are known. It is advanced at present that the dispatches are favorable.

I shall expect very soon a long letter from you, with all the politics of Augusta—Speculation, oblivion & so on, I suppose, will go together—Well let things—Walton's observation, on barter of this, for that, to the Chatham Grand Jury, is well founded in Georgia.

Tell Mitchel I will write him by Friday's post. If yours gets before his, you must lend him the papers, and I shall write him to do the same to you. I send you Brown's paper, supposed at present, to be the most impartial. Give my compliments to Genl. Irvine, & tell him I will write him sometime next week. My hand cut by the oyster shell, is yet so tender, that I am frequently compelled to lay down the pen—it is now much swelled, & my arm pains me to the shoulder, notwithstanding you laughed at the scratch.

I am told here, trifling as it is, that I shall feel it all this winter.

God bless you,
 & believe me, Milledge,
 Y^r Friend & Servt.,

JAS. JACKSON.

John Milledge, Esqr.,
 in Senate,
 Free. Augusta, Georgia.
 Jas. Jackson.

SAVANNAH, Augt. 26th, 1794.

D^r S^r,

Our son John, to be made a Christian of on the 17th day of next month, (your day this day week) has no objection to be one of you Godsons, should the standing for him not be contrary to your *noted religious principles*. One inducement, and which may make you suppose that there will be *more real religion* than is usual in Savannah on such ceremonies *at present*—is, that *Dr. Boyd & not the pastor of Goose Creek will* have function on the occasion. You are not considered as bound to observants of the Treaty of Jones House, at Augusta—it is not expected—He is not altogether called after you, being principally named John, after a favorite brother of mine, killed in the War of the Revolution, on board a British 20 Gun Ship—against us.

An Answer consenting will not be ungrateful to John, & will be pleasing to his Father.

Y^r Friend,

JAS JACKSGN.

Honble. J Milledge

SAVANNAH, May 14th, 1796.

DEAR MILLEDGE,

I have time to write you three lines to inform you that Sheatt has not dealt fairly by me. Mr. Belcher informs me that no order to pay me by Mr. Clarke of Boston or any other person on Mr. Sheatt's account has been received by him. A quantity of paper for sale on consignment is in his hands belonging to Clarke, but he cannot pay me a farthing.

Will you call on Sheatt & tell him this and protect the bill if he does not satisfy you making Oath of his promises, so that at least I may have the satisfaction of wounding his credit if he deserves it? A word to Muhlenberg of your determination on this head may have good effect.

I am still fired at in the papers, abused in the Coffee houses, & furnish Table talk for all Yazoo Scrip holders—but I have the People yet with me. Mr Watkins & myself have had another encounter; he insulted me during the Federal Court & I at him—the people interferred—would have tarred & feathered Watkins, if they could have found him, & contrary to my wish or knowledge, beset his House Mrs Knapps, where the Chief Justice Elsworth staid all night. I suppose a terrible tale will be raised of it. I was too much in passion this last time, & did not manage so well as I did at Louisville. It occasioned however no injury to either—a small scratch of the Face was all I got. We now stand I suppose for the third brush. The people prevented its going further.

Mr. Waldburger, that valiant man, after his party had been pelting me in the papers with all the dirt they

could get together, took offence at something a writer signed Gracchus, had said, & demanded of me whether or not I was the Author. I wrote him that I supposed I had as much right to refuse his demand as he had to make it—that if he had not thought the observation fitted him he would not have noticed it. To save trouble I told him I should receive no challenge from him, but that no proper invitation would be avoided. I went next morning for Louisville & two or three days after I was advertised for a *coward*. On my return I noticed this in half a dozen lines which produced a scurrilous piece in which McAllister & several others of the party are visible, denying any obligation to me; that Walton, & not myself, had brought him to what he was, & a thousand indecent observations. I had met him before, and had previously informed him I should treat him with pity and contempt. Whether fear, agitation, or what operated he that night burst a blood vessel, & I am told must die.

I was obliged to answer his last in an address to the publick, and there appealed to yourself—first that I was not acceding to the law giving him his property, Zuberbuhlers—for if you recollect all I did was to forbear violent opposition—and at the last stage I made this observation that I had never approved of the Bill & that I now disapproved it, but as the majority was so great in the House, it was needless to contend against, it & take up the time of the house. I could have gone further & told him of the Chinquepins, but his situation prevented me. I again appealed to you for his excuses for his ingratitude for

deserting me—you must well remember the intercession you made at Augusta to me for him.

I am in a hurry & nearly confusion, just on the Wing for the damd treaty, which turn out favorable or unfavorable to the State will load me with a fresh quantum of abuse. I am nearly steeled against it—for there is nothing however trivial which I ever did or consented to, but is brought against me & ten thousand things I never did or dreamt of doing are laid to my charge. All the good I ever did is vanished with the party, & every meritorious action villified. God send me through it for my dear Family's sake, & the Devil may take the publick affairs thereafter.

Mrs. Jackson desires her Complts. to Mrs. Milledge—my respects to her, & regards to Messrs. Neister, Gregg, Finley, & the Family.

God bless you.

JAS JACKSON.

What the Devil has made your forces desert so? 49 & 48 are declared to be your numbers.

SAVANNAH, March 8th, 1796.

DEAR MILLEDGE,

I am returned from Louisville and the political campaign is over. The Yazoo Act you will have perceived, is declared null and void by a Legislative act, and the envy, the disappointment and malice of the whole Host is raised against your humble servant—even assassination in a twofold degree is not wanting. An attack on my life has been made, and daily attacks on my reputation appear from the Pandora's

box of Georgia, the Augusta prints. Matters hitherto unheard of and undreamt of are alledged, covered under the libellous front of anonymous writers and anonymous imputation. Even your securityship for Demere which you know was first preceded by a thought and resolution drawn by Pendleton and Waldburger's grant of Zuberbuhlers estate, altho you know I never supported it, are layed at my door as having bartered thousands from the revenues of Georgia. I may be driven to the necessity of calling on you on this subject; if Waldburger had one atom of generosity I should call on him. My little house given me before the spirit of speculation broke in on our happy land, is raised to a splendid palace, and I am represented as wallowing in luxury obtained at my Country's expense. In short it would tire me to write, or you to read it all. There is one consolation—a conscious feeling—the secret satisfaction of integrity which no assassin can rob me of.

Mr Walton & myself I expect are done forever—not from me—I respect him still individually and at any other period should officially, but on account of his assassinating Measure, Mr. Watkins, who possesses a heart as dark as Erebus without one spark of genuine, generous courage. Disappointed in every attempt, and defeated by fair reasoning, and indulged more than he himself (as he expressed) had a right to expect—after having eat and drank at the same Table, and smiled & chatted but a day or two before the House broke up, watched an opportunity after the House rose, and my friends had retired from Louisville, & after dogging me to the State house to see who was

with me, whither I went for some necessary papers, to attack me singly and alone, unarmed as he thought, whilst a posse of his Yazoo friends collected for the purpose, stood by to assist him—His observation as follows: “General, the session is now over. I do not mean to act the assassin, but the Gentleman. I consider you the leader of a damned venal set or faction who have disgraced their Country.” This was done to draw on dispute. Flesh and blood of such texture as mine would not bear it, & the lie & stick involuntary flew on him; until my little Lucas stick broke, I finely frapped him, but the third blow it broke in my hand, & till then he had never struck me; but now at his mercy I received one blow on the head which for a moment stunn’d me, & I fell. I rose & my blood rose with me—I made at him & was told he had pistols. This made me recollect one I had carried, apprehensive of an attack from John Greene who I had been under the necessity of telling was a damn’d liar a night or two before, & I immediately exclaimed: “’Tis well, we are on a footing. Clear the way!” It was proposed by Flourney, one of his partisans, for us to fight in the morning—I replied that I never fought a base assassin but on the spot I met him, & ordered him to take his ground. I should have killed him, for I fired as soon as we were open to each other, but my hand was knocked up by one of the party, & as soon as I fired, he ran at me with a bayonet at the end of his pistol. We closed, and twice I threw him. I soon found that I was his Master as to strength & was beating him handsomely, when a scoundrel by the name of Wood turned Watkins on me and the Assassin

strove to gouge me. Driven to necessity I was compelled to put one of his fingers in my mouth which made him relinquish his attempt after skinning my eye. He then sprung another bayonet, for the first was either taken from him or returned to him & he had a pair on purpose, & stabbed at me repeatedly. I was all this time unarmed. He stabbed me in the left breast which fortunately entered my collar bone & ran me through my shirt and flannels, & grazed my ribs a second time—a half an inch lower in the breast, the Doctors pronounced, would have finished my business. The nature of this infamous attack as I had sent Tattnal three weeks before with an assurance that any private matter could be accommodated when Mr Watkins pleased—his eating and drinking in company—his telling our worthy friend Jones (who went to him but the day before solicitous for my safety, as he had heard an attack was intended on me, but did not suspect Watkins, but Greene & who went unknown to me) with a “Pshaw! who would attack General Jackson?” & laughed at it—all this argues a blackness and depravity of mind horrid in so young a man, & he may be pronounced well qualified for the heroic deeds of a Caligula or a Nero—If he had even a regard for his Uncle’s feelings, who was barbarously attacked by McIntosh, he would assuredly have waved that mode of attack—the lash of his Whip was taken off on purpose. A single line would have carried me to any rendezvous he chose to appoint—but he was deceived. I could whip two of him at any time, and notwithstanding my wound I was turning him the third time, when a few of my friends collected & tore

me from him. Yazoo made out a tale for him, but the mass of the people despise the attack as pitiful, dastardly, and assassinating. As an assassin I shall ever view and regard him. I have no objection to your showing this to our friend Walton. It is all truth. He now attempts to say the attack was made for his Uncle. It is a lie; not one word of or about his Uncle was mentioned, nor did I ever promise him support, for I never do it to any one. I neither——
—[Fragment of a letter from General Jackson to Hon. John Milledge.]

SAVANNAH, April 11th, 1796.

MY DEAR MILLEDGE,

I wrote you very fully by Col. Tattnal who I hope is before this with you. Since that period yours of the 11th of March has reached me, and I have seen some letters from you addressed to Stephens with the account of the correspondence between Gunn & Baldwin. Good God! what is to be the situation of our Country, if a publick character is not to speak his sentiments on its circumstances, (for I take it Mr. B's speech on the Land Bill, not the papers he had from Georgia was the cause of Mr. G's anger) without being liable to challenges, assassinations, etc.? Its effects, if it were countenanced, would be the deterring of any Man from stepping forward, let his talents be what they might—for what one man could expect to survive a Host of bullies who from interest, or desperate circumstances to be remedied only by taking the oppossing character of—were determined to take him off?

I feel this situation myself. I have daily abuse poured on me from all quarters—abuse intended to oblige me to notice, and abuse which I hear with great uneasiness—one day compared to Cataline, another to Robespierre—a third told of my publick depravity—a fourth charged with losing thousands to the State in assisting you in placing the interest to the principal bonds—again Waldburgers estate was given him altogether through my exertion (the two last charges you know to be false—Pendleton did the first & you the last); even I am charged with being actuated in my opposition by disappointed avarice.

Tattnal I suppose has given you, exclusive of my description in my letters, an account of Watkins' attack on me, and no doubt you will have seen the Party's account of it, sent in an extract from Augusta in a Baltimore paper. Thank God I am nearly callous. Cconvicted in my own breast of my rectitude of conduct, & that my motives have proceeded from real republicanism, & been actuated by publick integrity, I care little for it all as respects the injury it can work, but I feel a little uneasy on the score of revenge. I could punish one or two, but where would it stop? They are all anxious to get me to Duelling, & would not quit until I was put out of the way. The Wife and five children—the sixth I have reason to believe in embryo and will shortly be in existence—are powerful reasons to prevent engagements which may be not only fatal to myself, but those who have a right to look to me for support.

Whilst on this subject I inform you that I have had my fears respecting Tattnal. I know that he will

put up with no improper conduct of Mr. Gunn's, I shall be uneasy until I hear from you or him. My resolution as to this champion of the party's is taken. I will fight him if he demands it, but if he takes any other measure I am resolved to take their own steps with him. I have set myself down for a very troublesome year & I expect to be hard pushed, but I hope to have firmness to go through with it.

On Wednesday last a few Friends sat & drank your health with me ; among them was Stephens, Mitchel, Wilson—(Young engaged otherwise) O. Bowen and Carroway Smith. The beef was extremely good & much admired, after we were well filled with it. So my ticket is not yet out. Rice is falling, & I shall want something to live on—I can positively take nothing less than what I wrote you, 2000 Dollars. I see the Washington lottery tickets are rolled up. Are any of mine of them out ? I beg you to call and take my Encyclopedia from Dobson & to pay him. Perhaps there may be two volumes out—the last I have is the fourteenth—the 15th & perhaps the 16th are in print—I hope you will trust to my repaying you, if that wretch Sheatt should Jocky you & not let you have that fund. If you get that, you can pay with it, and also get Carey's Guthrie's Geography which I subscribed for.

We are all anxious to receive the result of your deliberations on the Treaty—Your speech on the call for papers is with us, and the thought too local with some I could name, and who think nothing shining can come from any but one, *you can guess whom* ; it has given satisfaction with *our* real friends—with the

others who also pretend to dislike Yazoo. The few words spoken, & the consequent correspondence have been supposed of more consequence and more weighty than all the risks I have run—this is for your private ear. If I had not pushed him at Philadelphia as Gregg knows, and here, as many know with *the papers*—the speech would never have been made nor the correspondence have taken place. Ste—s, altho appointed by our Friends, is among this number—but enough. I am satisfied as it has turned out. It will answer the best of purposes, & unless he is a Sycophant, he cannot but oppose Mr Gunn. If he was not conceited last Year, he was dam'd nigh it.

Remember me sincerely to Genl. Neister, Mess.^{rs} Findly & Grey, & to the Weyman, Stein, & Wager Family.

Mrs Jackson joins me in respects to Mrs Milledge.

God bless you.

Yrs &c.,

JAS JACKSON.

Damn your scraps
of letters—give me
a proper one. }

LOUISVILLE, Jany 25th, 1797.

DEAR MILLEDGE,

We are here on the old Ground, with nearly the same sentiments on the old business, but the management of our Western brethren has been, & still is much more difficult—The disappointment they met

with at the late Treaty has occasioned a ferment among the minds of the Oconee people not easily alleviated ; their members have come forward, generally instructed, to open a land Office over the Oconee River. It has required no little exertion to prevent a bill for that purpose passing the House. The favorers of the measure had actually twenty six Members on the floor of the Representatives decidedly for it. The leaders of Anti Yazoo who have been so stigmatized to the Federal Government as Enemies & Anarchists, were obliged to set their wits at work to convince some, & defeat the designs of others—It is not yet ended, but we have a large majority at present opposed to it, & I hope we shall be enabled to preserve it. A Joint Committee of both Houses have unanimously approved of the State Commissioners conduct, at Coleraine ; and a spirited remonstrance to the President & Congress, will, I believe, be the result—in fact, between ourselves this remonstrance is the only mode to preserve peace between the Union & Georgia, & that, without redress, will not answer the purpose. Some thousands of people are now moving into this State, and in Hancock, Washington & Greene, the people are swarming—Near twelve hundred voters balloted at the last election for the former, and I am confidently informed, that little more than half the persons entitled to vote, appeared. If Congress do not take some steps, they must, & will, rush like a torrent over the Oconee in search of subsistence. How much more politic would it be in the United States, to appropriate one hundred thousand Dollars to procure the land, than to drive a frontier to desperation, which must end in bloodshed,

and, if the event were favorable to the United States, in incalculable expense—The election of Mr. Adams will add to the fuel, and policy on this head should induce a compliance with their wishes, which might quiet them as to the Administration of Government.

It is in vain to say the persons who are for going over the Oconee, are a rabble. Some of the most influential characters & Friends to good government viewing the neglect & contempt with which Georgia has been treated, are for the measure—The Indians are at this moment scattered over the County of Camden, killing the Hogs and Cattle of the Citizens, whilst a Citizen crossing the line in search of his bona fide property is liable to severe penalties. The intercourse law is a violation of the territorial rights of the State, as well as the Rights of her Citizens. It must be revised—It must be altered & softened, or we cannot possibly bear it.

Mrs Milledge was well as I understood, when I left Savannah. Remember me affectionately to Tattnal. This line must do for both of you—my next shall be to him, which you must likewise participate in—Why have neither of you written me?

My family is increased—The Evening you left Savannah a second fire happened, in which poor Elen & Mitchell, lost the remainder of their property—Mrs Jackson brought me a fine boy at the same period—I have nicknamed the Dog, Hardtimes. Tell Mamy Weyman that she finds my old Woman and myself keep it up in spite of misfortunes—The old trade of Basket making goes on, let the World be as it may.

Tell Tattnall that he spoke to me (as Mrs Davis

mentioned to me since he left Savannah) about some record, which he wanted from this place, but neither she nor myself could remember what—indeed I do not recollect that he spoke to me at all on that subject. I was to attend the Court for him on his business, with that old sinner T. Young, & shall assuredly do so, if a Court is held, but I have no expectation until his return of any Court in Chatham—indeed it would be cruel to have one.

Did you get my trees? If not & they are not sent, they had better not be procured
 (Manuscript torn here). be too late, & if they sprout previous to setting out, they stand a great risk of dying—I hope, however, they are already sent together with the pease I requested you to get our good Landlady to procure for me. Mind my Encyclopedia and the memorandum I gave you.

I wish I could give you a peep, Tattnall another, both bravely seated in the well known rooms, studiously contemplating the affairs of State, mount the second Story & behold my old friend Mr Finley perhaps giving our Monarchy Men a third pelt—shake hands with Mr. Gregg—see the old woman, and the Girls in the kitchen, & be back in my place to attend the effect of a motion to burn the smuggled Mortgages, which I expect to be made to-morrow, & which I have no doubt will take place to convince the Union, that the annulling law of last Session was not the act of an individual, or the hasty ebullitions of a factious moment, as the infamous Geographer, Mr Morse, has given room to suspect. What a prostitution of divinity! —If we had him in Georgia, we would burn his gown,

if he wore one, as an appendage not compatible with a lying Historian. If I were in Philadelphia, I would address a line to him, & know not but I may as it is. This account of the records at Louisville is an infamous production, the Child of base information, & the Godchild of a venal pen. I have no doubt of Morse's being interested in the Yazoo, however his prostituted sanctity (Manuscript torn here).

You know as well as myself, that not a single record was touched, but those appertaining to that nefarious speculation on the rights of unborn Millions, which was begotten & matured by unexampled corruption. The cries and clamors of the Interested adherents of Mr Morse's zealous endeavours, may for a while continue to blind the Northern & Eastern Citizens, but the period will arrive when Georgia will receive her full reward by the approbation of future ages for having made so fatal a stroke at speculation & venality, which had arrived to so monstrous a height to threaten destruction to virtue and principle. The Legislature have agreed to a joint report to expend the time for the persons who deposited the pretended payments for Western (Manuscript torn).

Jas J—

Cannot you bring up our big Certificate and pass it? You may insert my last paragraph if you please

CEDAR HILL, June 11th, 1797.

DEAR MILLEDGE,

I wrote our friend Tattnal by the "Welcome" return the 4th. This I expect, however, will reach you as soon as that letter will reach him. I intended it for both of you, and as I there wrote very fully on our public situation, I refer you to it for my sentiments on that head. God send you may be able to stem the political Barque through the Ocean of difficulties she is engaged in, in safety—I doubt it.

This will come by the swift Packet which also conveys the absent Senator, as I have been informed. He is now released by the premature death of his wife from the bonds of matrimony and will no doubt be soon, a beau Garcon in the gay rounds of the seat of Government.

I know not if my information be correct, but I have it from the females and they from the waiting maid, that tired and weary of life and the miseries she had endured she put a period to her existence by a strong dose of poison which she had kept sometime by her. The deed it is said was hastened by his insisting to come into the same room where she had confined herself from the time of his arrival, declaring she never would bed with him again. Poor unhappy Woman! she had her good qualities & possessed a generous heart, perhaps too much so which together with example set her by her mother might have led to the criminal conduct she is charged with. Another partner might have reclaimed her. I think, if he possesses feelings, he must be miserable. You have this story as I got it—not on my own authority—therefore, be silent.

I much long to hear from you on several accounts—we are all at guess work. I learn that Mrs. Milledge expects you in about a fortnight—in my opinion you will not be here in two months. A direct tax is no easy object to accomplish. Different views & interests have ever in my humble opinion existed. They are almost as numerous as the States which form in our President's language *The Nation*. She is I understand well. Mrs. Jackson was down at Mrs. Box's a few days since, but Mrs. Milledge lives (like her in my absence) perfectly retired on The Island. We have both reasons for congratulation, when we contrast situations with many others—in particular the unfortunate subject (part of this letter) whose situation must be dreadful to be happy. He may shake it off, but if I know you, Milledge, you nor I could do it.

I am much in your debt but *must* be more so. My Encyclopedia *must* be had from Dobson, you *must* pay Footman a balance due him, you *must* procure me some of the best Garden seeds—and I *must* pay you the Cash for all your demands *On Sight*.

Tell the Old Lady how much I regard her. God knows if ever I should see her again, but I wish her well here & hereafter.

God bless you.

JAS. JACKSON.

My complt. to Messrs. Findly, Gregg, &c &c &c not forgetting Giles & Baldwin. For God's and your Country's sake—be staunch!

LOUISVILLE, August 11th, 1798.

DEAR SIR,

I had the pleasure of your favor from Augusta inclosing me late Philadelphia papers, and since that I have received your joint letter from Philadelphia with Mr. Baldwin inclosing me the cover of a letter which I had written the 16th February, and you received the 20th of June—four months & 12 days after its leaving Louisville. I do not like to judge hard, but I fear that little sink, Augusta, plays tricks more ways than one. The Post Officer here has satisfied me that the misconduct did not happen in Louisville.

I wish while you were at Augusta you had rolled round here on your way home. One day's delay would not have been much, and I had ten thousand things to ask you which will not do on paper. We could have chatted away one 24 hours easily.

I hope you found Mrs. Milledge well, and your crop pleasing to behold. Our friend, Tattnal, writes me his is not good.

I wrote you by Post, about a month since, which I scarcely think has met you. I should have written you oftener, but a fear of your adjournment prevented me, and I have friends enough desirous of knowing my sentiments.

In my last I gave you a few hints respecting the situation of your Cousin Philip, and my fears that you & Mr. Stephens might suffer. He certainly is very imprudent; he makes no exertion, and appears perfectly indifferent. In the present situation of things, when the State wants every shilling, this con-

duct is inexcusable. The treasury is low and Savannah and the southern ports cry out for Fortifications & protection. These cannot be or afforded without money, and there are about four Collectors who have twenty odd thousand Dollars publick money in their hands. Steps were taken against the others, & the Executive could not be partial.

As if your Cousin set the State at defiance, I find he has forbid Wall's selling. This I cannot permit in justice to the State & my own reputation, and as sure as any Judge dares, contrary to the tax law, to make a Judicial interference, I will lay the matter & his conduct in interfering before the Legislature. If your Cousin had made any common advance, I would have given him a longer breathing time, but he does not, as matters stand, deserve it.

Berrien directed the Execution in the first place against him to get as much as possible from him previous to coming on his securities. Honesty and gratitude ought to dictate to him to save you harmless, and not screen his own property. I confess my attachment has been strong towards him, and his present conduct surprises me.

I would yet advise him to come forward. If he should not under the pressing circumstances the State is now in, he will have reason to fear that the next Legislature will pass a most severe law, by which exclusive of property's being liable, the person also will, without bail or mainprize, be liable to be shut up for life. The State will be compelled to be severe; upwards of fifty thousand Dollars are now in the hands of Individuals. Perhaps he may escape this

severity, as he has you & Mr. Stephens for security, whose estates are sufficient; but it will be cruel in him to let you suffer, & however great my Friendship, I must do my duty.

Our Savannah lads seem determined to set us at war with all the Nations Mother Britain quarrels with. The burning the Spanish schooner was a most wanton act. The Citizens cry out for protection one week, and strive to add to their enemies the next.

You see that my Friends at Augusta, still remember me; much good may it do them. They set me down for a Proteus—an Englishman—skip Jack—from Oliver Cromwell they metamorphose my Presbyterian Countenance into Jean Frenchman, and as suddenly change Robespierre, one & indivisible of course Federal, into a wicked Anti Federalist who wishes to support State Governments. Lord help us, what will they make of me next?

The Corporation have applied to me for money. I have advised a voluntary contribution, & have offered to set the example. If every planter who works twenty hands on Savannah river or its vicinity, would give one hundred Dollars, it would come to a handsome sum, & would protect their remaining property. Is it not better to do this than to run the risk of losing all? The State cannot answer all the expectations of Savannah—she must provide for other places, weaker and more exposed; but all she could do would not be sufficient to fortify Savannah as it ought to be.

Hoping to see you previous to your return Northwardly, I am, my dear Sir,

Yrs. very sincerely,

JAS JACKSON.

Mrs. J. begs her Compl'ts to Mrs. M. The children are better, & John says he wants to see his Godfather.

Ap'pos, you sent on my Encyclopedia. Do send it up by Mr. Manns on the first opportunity, & write me.

The Honorable

John Milledge, Esqr.,

near

Savannah.

Favor of

Mr. Manns——

if not in town care of

H. Jackson.

LOUISVILLE, Nov. 14th, 1798.

MY DEAR MILLEDGE,

I fully intended to have been in Chatham before this, but have been prevented by a hurry of business until it is too late to go down and return in time to cast up the votes for Congress. I am therefore constrained to postpone my departure until the first of next month, when I shall, if you are not gone Northwardly, take one day at least with you on Skidoway to chat over the present scene of men and things.

It is yet uncertain whether our Friend Baldwin or Taliaferro will carry the day. I do not think the dif-

ference will at any rate be great. Jones will lead by a considerable number. I do not know how it is, but although Jones hits Yazoo hard and travels in similar sentiments with yourself, Baldwin, & others, he meets universal suffrage, whilst you, Baldwin, & above *all, myself*, meet for our services blackguard abuse, and the most infamous constructions on our conduct. He is at the Full—we, my Friend, in the wane of popularity, he at the zenith—we scarcely in the twilight of publick influence. I do not observe this as censure on *our Friend*, for I shall give over human confidence, if ever I have reason to suppose that he will change those principles he has so strenuously supported. His Enemies no doubt wish to purchase, but I hope he is too high at market for their purses. As to popularity, my Friend, it is a shadow—here one moment, there another—as the sun of events changes its situation. For my own part I am sick of it, and could I see the State in peace, and get rid of the political noose with decency, I would retire from publick life forever, and leave to the rising politicians all the Ambition & tumultuous honor of my appointment at present, or those which might be offered to me in future.

I hope that neither our friend Tattnal nor yourself will leave Chatham until my arrival, when you will certainly be informed of the Election of Congressional Members. As to the State—the Senate is not strong. Our Friend, G. Jones, must work hard; he encounters that bawler, Cuyler, and S. McNeil, however, helps him. A majority of the House is of the right side, if the assiduity & perseverance of the T—y department & a coalition which I am told is formed with

the Augusta lads by it, does not too much prevail. Young Bryan has now a fine opportunity of coming forward. Never had a young politician a fairer. Sims is at present all our dependence at speaking against a host. Young Elliott from Burke & Bryan must prepare for public expectation. If the latter once breaks forth, my ideas of him are sanguine. Gods! 20 years since how would I have rejoiced at the same opening! If he does not—but *he must*—Chatham will suffer.

Abuse of your humble servant still continues. They strive hard to make me a monster; I shall be well if I escape without the painting. So much for real disinterested Conduct & publick service.

Mrs. Jackson begs her regards to Mrs. Milledge; my Compl'ts also, if you please. Tell Tattnal I should have wrote him, but he has not answered my two last. I wrote you in answer to yours by Mr. Butler, but have heard nothing from you since.

God bless you says your friend,

JAS. JACKSON.

The Honorable John Milledge, Esqr.,
Skidoway Island.

LOUISVILLE, March 13, 1799.

DEAR MILLEDGE,

I suppose that you are working away at the Cotton; the season appears to be favorable, & no doubt but you embrace it to make up for the loss of the last year. On the whole, however, I do not think you had much right to complain; if your low Country Cotton did not produce, your up Country Cotton assuredly did.

I lost all rice & Cotton to speak of its consequence at Cedar Hill, and what I had at the Hammock fell far short of my expectations. I shall begin to plant here in a few days, but must continue at the Green Seed. If I had a little of your up Country black, I would try it. How many lobes has it, & are the bolls as full as the Green Seed Cotton ?

Our Friend, Charley, has resigned, and I shall reinstate our Friend, Morrel. The appointment of him goes by this post, and I hope he will not refuse to qualify. He has no reason to be chagrined with the Office, or the Executive, nor with some of the Members, and his acceptance may mortify the man most instrumental in deranging him. It was young B., but this between ourselves. I have sent a dedimus to the Inferior Justices. Give my compliments to, and inform him of it.

I should have written to you two days since by Dr. Bothwell, the minister of this place, but business prevented me. I beg you to show him what attention may be in your power as one of the Trustees of Huntington College. He has had my Boys under him since the period of their coming up, & is a complete Latin, Greek, & Hebrew scholar, besides a knowledge of French. His character is very respectful, though a plain man. He has an invitation to Savannah, and as his health is by no means stable here, he wishes to change the air. I have been thinking that if he succeeds, he might preach on Sundays & keep school at the orphan house where he might reside during the week. If the Trust should deem a Teacher of lan-

guages at present necessary, I do not think a more fit person could be employed.

Some thousands of Yazoo Dollars have been drawn from the Treasury, and several other applications are made; but cases occur which will require an amendatory law. I hope that the next session I shall see you & some others who are staunch on the Floor—such as Mr. Stephens, Dr. Jones, Dr. Young, & Col. Tattnal—it will not do for the people to be altogether lulled. Walton has fired away in Burke, and from his charge there is little doubt but he would be decidedly opposed to the interests of the State & in favor of the speculation. He says that party and Faction have too long pervaded the bench, or words to that effect—but who has fanned the coals under the signature of Brutus. He seems to have burst forth with the full display of his splendid usefulness and all the pomp of self consequence, clad in the robe of power, and armed with the dagger of malignity.

I have not heard if our Friend Tattnal is returned. I have written to him two letters, but to my surprise have not received an answer. This makes me at times apprehensive that he is displeased at Mr. Baldwin's election. He ought to be convinced of my regard & Friendship for him, and I am fully persuaded had Mr. B. & himself been both run, Carnes would have obtained the seat. Both their Friends thought it best and prudent to have a meeting run the person having the highest number. I was not present; delicacy from my situation forbade it. Baldwin, our Friend Tattnal, the Speaker Meriwether, and Mr. Telfair were named. Mr. Baldwin came a few votes ahead & Meriwether

gave up immediately to him. After this fair proceeding there was no prospect of carrying any person but Baldwin—to split would have effectually lost all. If the Colonel remembers his own letter to me, he mentions that he understood that Walton & Baldwin were candidates; if so & there was a prospect of splitting, to withdraw his name. This I requested to be done after the private meeting. If he would reason with himself, he ought not to be displeased, but satisfied that the other side lost their man. My regard for him has induced these observations to you, as I am uneasy at his unusual silence. I know that attempts have, or will be made to impress him with the idea of his Friends leaving him—it was really not the case. And several back country members understanding he had resigned, had made up their minds for Baldwin. The idea of his resignation assisted to injure his election.

I am almost sick of this place, and wish to breathe a little low Country air. If I can, I shall strive to be down in all next month.

France, I perceive, has made Overtures to our Government through Vans Muvray, our Minister in Holland. I wish they had received our envoys; the minds of our Citizens would not have been so warped in favor of our old Tyrant, Britain.

Mrs. Jackson begs her Compliments to Mrs. Milledge, my respects also if you please, and believe me sincerely

Yr. Friend & Servt.,

JAS. JACKSON.

LOUISVILLE, April 2nd, 1801.

MY DEAR MILLEDGE:

I snatch a moment by the Post to congratulate you on the certainty of your election, and not only you, but our Country and the Delegation in Congress which is now harmonious and unanimous. The returns which have come in you will find enclosed. Montgomery had no election, Bulloch returns not in, but Captain Cone who was with me yesterday, says it was unanimous for you. Barnett has worked like a Horse for you, and so has Meriwether, Bailey of Oglethorpe, Dixon & Harris of Jackson, and Abercrombie of Hancock, Lamar, & Adams. In Green, Melton, the Greshams, the Earlys &c said you were my Friend and a low Countryman, and ultimately to prevent Stith getting a number of the other votes. The Fitzpatrick's and the Greens, although they voted for you, encouraged Van Allen. Stith's voting for the seat of the University at Greensborough made him so popular; and he rode day and night—thank God for nothing.

God bless you.

Yours sincerely,

JAS. JACKSON.

JOHN MILLEDGE, esquire,

Augusta.

post.

LOUISVILLE, Septr. 1st, 1801.

DEAR MILLEDGE:

I had fully intended to have seen you in Savannah last month, but Mrs. Jackson's extreme illness prevented it; she is now barely able to sit up, and I

assure you I am almost worn down. After a month's confinement to her bed, she lost her little one—another Girl—with a Child of which sex, it appears, God is not pleased to bless us; but I have reason to be satisfied that Mrs. Jackson's life is preserved, for never had woman a more narrow escape. It will now be doubtful if we meet again until Congress meets at Washington, for I shall leave this on Friday for Savannah, whither I am obliged to go, to scrape up my rents &c., to assist in fixing Will and James at Athens; & to remove the rest of the Family down, which I shall do in October—the illness we have met having nearly drained my resources. I shall hurry back from Savannah, and post off with the Boys for Jackson county to see them settled which will bring me till the middle of October. It will take me one week here to remove after that, & give my orders at the plantation, and it will be the last of October before I get the Family down, & any way settled. Some little time I must allow myself to arrange my affairs there, and if I turn about, and come straight back to the Senatus Academicus, I shall have no time for arrangement at all; so that it is dubious if I shall attend, and in such case it is improbable we shall meet *next* in Georgia, as I shall sail for Baltimore & I suppose you will go by land. Do you still hold your wish of our being together? If you do, let us agree that the first arriving at Washington shall provide lodgings for the other. Another question—Do you carry Mrs. Milledge? The Doctors have forbid my conveying of Mrs. Jackson, and

have advised her being on or near The Sea Islands for the Winter.

I wrote Mr. J—n pretty fully and gave him the leading features of some Official Characters—particularly those of District Atty. M—l Superv'r &c. It will not do, my Friend, to be squeamish ; those fellows would have cut your throat and mine six months since. For the first of those, if removal should be thought proper, I named our Friend Brydie—for the second to split a set of them, & hush Cabal Holland, who is a real firm republican & cannot, poor fellow, help his connection, and for the third, our old Friend, Col. Burks—so as to have some from the Westward. And for the same reason I have mentioned the name of William H. Crawford, Barret's nephew, as a Candidate for the C. Judgeship. I have not interfered with Mr. W—n, but Mr. Barret & the whole back country are wroth, having learnt he has been recommended. Crawford will satisfy them all—Early and a few Yazoo Lawyers excepted—and we must take some of those Friendly Young Men by the hand. I should have named my old soldier, Stallings, for M—l, but it would not do whilst in duress himself. I think old Burns as well qualified for Sup—vis—r as any other I can think of—hydraulics has been his study—his republican sentiments are staunch and M—ws has had it long enough and used the publick money long enough.

I have written this in confidence by Mr. D. B. Butler who has promised to deliver it with his own hand. If I could have seen you, I should not have mentioned one of the above without consulting you ;

but I kept Mr. J—'s letter so long in expectation of seeing you that I was ashamed to delay it longer. You & I must go together.

Yr. Friend & Servt.,

Write me by post
inclosed to Benedict post haste;
it will come safe.

Mrs. Jackson's regards to Mrs. Milledge, to whom also please to present my respects.

Apropos—cannot you and myself bring it about to put the bearer in Hobby's place? That Fellow must not stay here.

DEAR GOVERNOR,

I am still here on the fret. Not a vessel for Baltimore, Philadelphia, or Norfolk, either here or at Charleston, and I am compelled to wait the motions of the Ceres for New York, not above half loaded. I am almost crazy about the claims. Write Dearborn another pressing letter with any other information you can get; the ---- must be kept up, or they are gone. If I had been so lucky as to have got on the ground the first day, I have no doubt all would have been straight.

I hope you have got over the session pretty well without any extraordinary mischief. Has a resolution passed authorizing you to deliver over to Secretary of the Treasury all Yazoo papers, deposits &c &c? It should be done. They certainly are now of no use, & of right they belong to the Union.

I write Mr. Mays by this days mail. If he has

left Louisville, I wish it to be taken in charge of by Mr. Wilkinson, & will thank you to drop a line to him to have it safe conveyed, if he has left Augusta.

Sea Island Cotton 44c. in demand; upland, 17, on the rise. Rice ----- brisk.

Let me hear often from you, & believe me,

Y^r Friend & Servt.,

JAS. JACKSON.

Cedar Hill, ----- 23rd, 1802.

His Excell'y,

John Milledge.

For God's sake take care of Bryan.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5th, 1803.

MY DEAR SIR:

Accompanying this you will receive an official letter notifying the ratification of the Treaty by an unanimous vote of the Senate—a vote I had by no means contemplated. The opposition generally withdrew on the occasion, but Morris & even Tracy voted with us, & perhaps were induced to do so from my attacking the Treaty myself, which I did pretty warmly, & charged Hawkins home. I thought it best to begin first, & the event has justified it. I have little doubt now but that we shall procure another treaty for the Okmulgee & the balance of Tallassee County. If I might advise, I would decline calling the Legislature for some weeks, by which period we can give you further information on the head, and it will be much better for the planters who will be busy in preparing and sowing their fields in February,

March, & the former part of April; & the first of May is as healthy as any season of the year.

I am sorry to inform you that by some maneuver or other, copies of the papers respecting yourself and Judge Stephens which I thought fully secured, had been previously taken, & are now in this City, as I am credibly informed. General Meriwether wrote you on Monday and inclosed you the Washington Federalist containing a most violent attack on you & the Judge. We think it best to let it pass off unnoticed for fear of the publication of the papers themselves. How the copies could have been taken, unless by the permission of Captain Marbury, we cannot account—but so it is—perhaps in his absence from the Office. The connection is such and their motives so envious & malicious, the Feds would unveil the mysteries of heaven or rip up the Magazines of Hell to procure food for their slanderous appetite. I know they would not leave you like your predecessor alone; they will accompany you, as they did me, through all your administration, and I told you to be prepared for it.

I think if the letters we have officially written to you respecting the upper line & the one now sent as to the ratification of the treaty with the Creeks were published, it would tend to take off a great part of the impression the blackguard piece might otherwise make, & I recommend the publication of both, as what will attach the Citizens to the General, and State Administrations.

Hoping that Mrs. Milledge is better, & that you enjoy good health,

believe me always

Y^r Friend & Servt.,

JAS. JACKSON.

I expect Mr. Mays has sent down for my Boys. If you should be at Augusta when they arrive in the State & will advise them as to getting along, you will much oblige me. They will have money to hire horses.

A Louisville paper just arrived gives me an opportunity to make a wipe at the Federalists in your & Stephens' favor.

Do give me advice where to get my Cotton Seed for Cedar Hill; what I got from your Island plantation was very bad. How would your Augusta blackseed answer? Has it degenerated? If not, put some on board a boat for me to the care of Starke.

WASHINGTON, Jany. 17, 1803.

DEAR GOVERNOR:

Again have they been at you, at me, at Mitchell, & at Putnam, in a most virulent manner. I inclose you my reply. R—e puffed up by his triumph over Ellery, may be pushed to get at me. I doubt if he does, if I honor him so far as a meeting. I have bolstered up too many to bolster him under the various charges against him until he wipes them off, and I shall take good care he shall not Ellery me with impunity; if he attacks, he dies.

We are going on as well as we can wish. The report.

of the Secretary of War will be decidedly in favor of the Militia claims, all except the Okmulgee expedition which the State must pay, if ever paid, herself. Our old Friend, the Attorney-General, told me last evening that another treaty for the balance of the fork and Tallassee will be held this Summer. This in confidence, but I have no doubt of it as well as one on the upper line with the Cherokees. We have the Government perfectly with us; if we act right at home, our highest wishes will be gratified. The propriety of calling an extra session of the Legislature may be questioned until we see more here.

Mr. Munroe was appointed Minister extraordinary to France and Spain on the New Orleans business, and to purchase the Floridas if possible. Negotiation will be first tried in every State to preserve peace; if it fails, what must ensue I need not tell you. The Western people are resolved & prepared to force a free passage of the Mississippi.

Should this meet you at Augusta, do, as I before begged, attend for me to my Boys whilst there, and contrive them on to Athens; they will be provided to hire Horses, but they will want advice.

Hoping that Mrs. Milledge recruits, believe me,

D^r Govr.,

Y^r friend,

JAS. JACKSON.

His Excell'y JOHN MILLEDGE.

Note the part against R. is as far as my friends would permit me to go. It is understood by every Member on the floor. To have gone further, after

the late business, would be deemed a breach of the privilege of the house.

WASHINGTON, Jany. 25, 1803.

MY DEAR GOVERNOR :

Your favor of the 12th instant from Augusta reached me yesterday, and I hasten to reply to it. I have written you pretty regularly since my being here, & shall continue to do so until the end of the Session which indeed now draws to a close.

The attacks on you & the Judge, Col. Mitchel, & Captain Putnam, have terminated in the Federalists attacking myself with a promise of continuation. His last styles me Sir William Draper. If I answer it at all, I shall remind him, if that attaches to me, which I doubt, I do not feel him a Junius. No doubt the Herald will have all the correspondence, so it is needless to send you all the papers. I will inclose his last to me, to-morrow. Our Friends are pressing me to stop, & tell me that I have done you *all* Justice, & have satisfied their minds—that to outblack-guard or outlie the writers of that paper is impossible.

Mr. Early arrived and took his seat, under a paragraph of your letter certified by me of the 23rd Decr. He has since received his commission. He has hitherto given republican votes, and behaved well; but I find the Yazoo lads depend greatly on him. This is what I fear, & this Session he ought to have been at home. On this subject I am of opinion the State injured herself beyond calculation in not

giving up the papers, deposit &c &c. I expect from their incessant workings, & my Friend & yours the Genl., thinks they'll work on him, that the whole 5,000,000 of Acres will be appropriated in Mass—and indeed an appropriation of that land, as no checks are here, appears necessary so as to leave it open for the Commissioners of the U. States to decide on Just claims; for I myself do not deem it proper to shut the door altogether, and I fear the cabinet will be for appropriating the whole, as it will make no difference to them, as they can allow what they please and thus prevent any future appropriation which would revert to Georgia.

Inclosed you have the broad, staring evidence of the guilt of your friend Rutledge, who has been the origin with T. Gibbons of all your attacks. The Aurora man jibes at him; let Smith, or Day & Hely have it to print. The Rhode Island Republican challenges him to legal combat. He tries to hold up his head, but he has lost his usual front. Were I in his place, I would hide myself forever, but he talks, it is said, of fighting, & is going to carry his Ellery second, L. Morris, to the Southward. It may be myself; but he must clear up his reputation first, and give Mitchel and Putnam satisfaction before he meets me, & by —, he shan't Ellery me.

So I have been once more dead in Georgia. My enemies are again deceived, for I am alive & never more hearty. Brown tells me I have been dead in Kentucky; Green of the Mississippi that I was dead there; and Ross that I was dead at Pittsburg; and all stared to see me alive & on the floor. In all the

Atlantic States I have also been dead, & I find by a London paper I have been dead in England. I begin to think I am somewhat beyond the Cat's nine lives. I thank you & my real Friends for the lively feelings they entertained on hearing of my safety. Present them all with my sincere acknowledgments and best wishes for their happiness. All I can promise in return is to do as I have always done—to consider their and my Country's interests as paramount to my own, & never to let them clash.

The Secretary of War has promised me to report this week. I shall stimulate and aid our representatives with all the means in my power. Apropos, Mr. Early made his maiden speech, since I began this letter very handsomely, & is much praised. I hope to God he may turn out straight to the end.

Another apropos—as to attacks: Goody Harper in the Baltimore Anti Democrat has wrote a satire on my hat.

I am happy to find that Mrs. Milledge's complaint is checked. That she may recover & live many years to bless you—for you & her as well as my wife and myself, have been too long together to wish to part—is the prayer

of, Dear Milledge,

Y^r Friend & Servt.,

JAS. JACKSON.

I shall attend to Dallas for you next month, when court sits. I hope to God Harrison's report may not be true—it will ruin us if true by heaven! Blackshear's is bad enough.

Remember me to my boy, George, & Mr. Boseman.

I wrote you if possible to attend to my sons at Augusta on their way up as to procuring horses for them ; they go there in the Stage.

WASHINGTON, Feby. 18th, 1803.

MY DEAR GOVERNOR,

I drop you three lines to inform you that the House yesterday negatived the report on the claims in a thin house, by a majority of three ; more than a sufficiency of Members were out of the house, who were favorable, to have carried the question—Van Cortland among others. Your friend Gregg opposed it pretty tight at first, but came at last over & voted for us. Randolph & Elmendroff were the Characters who led a number of Republicans astray. If Bryan had been here, or yourself, it would have gone the other way. Gallaher hurt us a little by hinting that these claims were merged in the Cession consideration, and on that ground Randolph led them off. Early spoke well, and as a speaker is admired, but was too precipitate in defending his own report before any person had attacked it. This proceeded from inexperience, but his want & precipitancy injured it. He proceeded rather too much in our Legislative fashion and which offended some of our Friends. The report of the Secretary of War was then postponed until next Session. Mr. Holmes offered General Meriwether to move this morning for a reconsideration, but on a general consultation, & the Speaker who was warmly our Friend with General Smith advised it, we agreed to let all stand as it does until next Session, as a second

negative now, as the Members are very restive, would destroy our hopes altogether. They offer to appropriate for the authorized claims as they term them now, but we decline it, as it might seem a kind of satisfaction & be brought forward in Argument against us at a future day. I despair not of the claims in the least. They will, and they must pass. The Speaker told them they could not go by it. Our lads must have a little more patience and they have had their own representatives to speak for them. I have contradicted Gallaher's assertion positively, and you must recollect that in a conversation on the debt of Georgia where those claims were brought into view, Gallaher himself declared that the Militia claims of Georgia must stand by themselves—that they could not be connected with the Cession business.

The report of the Commissioners on the Yazoo claims was introduced yesterday and is now printing. To the honor of the State of Georgia, it has confirmed the corruption in a more extensive manner than the rescinding law or any act of Georgia—

“Every member who voted for it—says the report—
“of both the house and Senate one

“solitary exception, Robert Watkins, whose

“name does not appear, was concerned

“in the purchase.” The Commissioners have refused the terms proposed by the speculators which were extravagant, as inadmissable, 8,500,000 dollars out of the proceeds after Georgia was satisfied. The Commissioners offer them 2,000,000 after the satisfaction of Georgia, but this they will not take, and I think stand a chance to get nothing. At the President's yesterday

I was asked by the Speaker Randolph & some others what the State would take in six per Cents to take the Speculators off the hands of the Union—if a Million would do. I told them I would contract with them on behalf of the State for the Million 6 per Cents ; but I would not answer that the Yazoo lads would get a stiver more than the money now in the Treasury, but that that now I considered pledged to pay our Militia. This created a laugh round the Table, when Randolph asked me if I would take Mrs. Morton with them. I told him I would answer that the State of Georgia would take the Male Speculators into dealing, but I would have nothing to do with female sharpers. This created a roar. As there is many a true word said in jest, I now seriously assure you that I would not give my consent to part with a Dollar more of the Yazoo money, but hold it as a pledge for the payment of our Militia. I have told them also, and many Members, Bradly in particular, says we ought to be d——d if we give up a Cent of it, that we are not bound to do it, no mention being made in the Cession. By holding fast we shall bring them to it; indeed, several of those who voted against the claims, have no great objection to our paying them with that money, and say so.

I began to write you three lines, & I shall write nearly two sheets. Well then, Hawkins has sent his man Hill here full of complaints against Georgia and Georgians, for building bridges over the Oconee, and for one of your wise men of Gotham, a member of the Legislature's telling the Indians that the Okmulgee fork belonged to Georgia, and that they would have it. Whereby Mr. Hawkins has advanced that the

Creek Indians, after being persuaded to give up the balance of the fork, had determined to take back their word. I believe I wrote you in my last that I wrote the President a smart whole-length letter, in which our friend B. did not like to join me. I have an answer which I dare not trust altogether by post. The following is part, and ought to be satisfactory: "The War Department, charged with the Indian affairs, will second my views with sincerity, and in the present case, beside the official directions which will go to Col. Hawkins immediately, to spare no effort from which any success can be hoped to obtain the residue of the Oconee and Okmulgee fork. I shall write myself to Col. Hawkins and possess him fully of my views and expectation, and this with such explanation as I trust will bring him cordially into them." Again, "When speaking of the Okmulgee fork I ought to have added that we should do what can be done properly on behalf of Wofford's settlement, and that as to the So. Eastern Road (from Tennessee) it shall be effected." This is as much as could be expected, and I have no doubt we shall have treaties this summer for all those objects.

If you call the Legislature, and I believe you had better, to prepare the demands of the State against the Indians, about the middle of May will be best. We must ourselves apply for our rights to either cash or land, and you must pay the way. I have again almost totally lost my crop, and cannot afford to do publick business for nothing. I am getting old and have a large family, and the prime of my years have been spent in the service of the State to the detriment

of my private interests, and it is too late now to reimburse it. The State must do me justice as well for the Commissioner's duty as my demand against her during the war, which you can assist me in. In right they owe me 2,000 dollars for house rent whilst Governor, and I spent more over my salary than that sum comes to.

Thank you again for your good intentions towards my boys. I hope you have before this seen them. Dallas is not yet here, and I know nothing about the cause. We are so engaged about Ross' motion for war that I have not a moment to enquire, but will, to-morrow being Saturday. The close of the session is at hand and you know how it is, all hurry. Mason seemed inclined to postpone.

You did well in approaching Webly; Wyly was not steady enough, tho' I shall look out something for him here if possible. The weather you say has been cold. It has been bitter here for a week past; only one Northern mail has arrived in five days. God send that Mrs. Milledge may get over her cruel disorder. Do give my sincere respects to her. Mrs. Jackson has also been again very ill. Thank you for your order to Mr. Alger for the cotton seed, and believe me affectionately,

Y^r Friend & Servt.,

JAS. JACKSON.

Don't show what I have mentioned about E—y. I leave the rest to your discretion. To give the Devil his due, Rutledge supported early in the claims. Old Meriwether is a sterling fellow.

WASHINGTON, Feby. 14th, 1803.

DEAR GOVERNOR,

I received your favor of the 28th Ultimo from Louisville some days since, as well as your publick letter to Mr. Baldwin and myself as Senators, inclosing the proceedings of Messrs. Easely, Carnes &c which I have laid, by my Colleague's advice, before the President of the United States. He did not run them over whilst I was present, for company was there, but sometime since the three States, Kentucky, Tennessee & Georgia, addressed him on the subject of a Road from Danville through Tennessee to Augusta, & he assured me on Saturday when I laid your last dispatches before him, that the Road would be procured, which will prove of immense advantage to our State. I am afraid some exceptions will be taken as to the proceedings of what you term our Commissioners, as they went into the Nation without a Federal Officer, and speak somewhat in the treaty-making manner, which I wish to God they had avoided. The formality of going backwards and forwards under the Character of Commissioners will be exceptionable, and between you and myself it appears there is to be no end to their six dollars a day, as I suppose they receive pay, and are to be back again in forty days which is expired, & the packet came to hand but on Friday & this is only Monday, and there is an impossibility for any step that the General Government may take to be known. Of course they must have another, and another meeting, and you will have them on pay one half the year, besides the Judges salary, whilst the Legislature would see Baldwin, you

or myself at the Devil before they'd allow us a sixpence for our extra duty with the Commissioners of the U. States in forming the Cession. The choice was a bad one at best, and you could not possibly have pursued it for any reason but that you found them in appointment, and greater enemies you never had. Their politics are known & will not make much in favor of their proceedings here. I have however written the President a *closer* this day on all those subjects, particularly the Okmulgee fork—for Mr. B., you know, will not *sometimes go all lengths*, but which I seldom stick at.

Our big Gunn, the claims of our Militia, has been fired in favor of the State. As I have but one copy, I cannot send it to you. I, however, enclose you a copy of the report of the Committee to whom the Secretary's report was referred.—Early, Chairman. Dearborn does not go quite as far as I could have wished. The State will have, if we get all this, to pay some, and a violent opposition will be made to this, if it passes the house. I think it safe here. The Yazoo claims are not, even yet, brought forward, & I wish they may be too late for acting on, as they are so damn'd extravagant.

Dallas is not here, nor will he be here. Indeed scarcely a lawyer of any eminence but Mason is here. He says Dallas has written him to postpone the cause till next term which letter he will put in the hands of a friend to move it, & he seems inclinable himself—if old Tom will let him. I should willingly have advanced the sum you mention.

I thank you for your expressions of Friendship for

the little part I took in the attack on you here, and I also thank you for your friendly expressions as to my Children. I shall continue to write you as long as I stay here, but beg you to write me no more, as I hope to be at sea this day three weeks.

I am D^r Governor,

Y^r Friend,

JAS. JACKSON.

I inclose a letter handed me for you. What say you to calling the Legislature? If you can manage the digest without, it would be best not. We shall write you Officially as soon as we know the President's determination and the fate of the claims. In all probability you will be down in Skidoway in a month by which time I hope to be at or near home. We have had a warm speech from Ross this Morning to declare war against Spain—this is for your own ear.

BALTIMORE, March 16th, 1803.

DEAR GOVERNOR,

This will be handed to you by Mr. W. Driscoll, a Gentleman who has for some time past edited a paper in this City but whom at the request of Dr. Smelt, I have engaged to carry on the establishment of our late Friend, J. E. Smith.

His character is that of a man of learning, integrity, and sound principles, precisely such an one as we needed at Augusta; and I hope he will be properly supported. I have taken the liberty to promise him yours—as well as, as much of the publick work as is consistent with your duty. I shall procure him all

the subscribers I can below. A noise may be raised against him, that he is a Foreigner, but to you and myself who have felt the rod of persecution, Mr. Driscoll's having been compelled to abandon his native Country for supporting the principles you and myself have ever avowed, will operate not as an objection, but a recommendation. He has the honor of an acquaintance with the President who wishes to establish him near him in Virginia, as did Gen'l Mason, &c, but he has given the preference to Georgia and has sold out his paper, The American Patriot, here & will set out immediately. I have also assured him that, if necessary, he shall be assisted in the purchase of the Smith establishment at the expiration of the year agreeably to Mr. Smith's desire, and Dr. Smelt's information to me, as his last wish.

I have been most cruelly detained here for the Comet in which I sail to-morrow for Savannah.

Believe me D^r Governor,

very truly,

Your Friend & Servt.

JAS. JACKSON.

His Excellency

John Milledge

Gov &c &c

Georgia.

avored by

Mr. W. Driscoll.

CEDAR HILL, May 29th, 1803.

SIR,

I beg leave to address your Excellency on the subject of an Act of Congress to make further provision for, or to amend the Militia Act, the last section of which authorizes & requires a Quarter Master General in every State. Mr. Samuel Wall, an Aid du Camp to a Major General in the late Revolutionary War, is in my opinion qualified for it, and as the Adjutant general is from the West, it is but fair that the Quarter Master Gen. should be appointed from the Eastern part of the State. With high respect, I am, Sir, Your Excellency's

Most Obedt. Servt.,

JAS. JACKSON.

Gov. Milledge.

His Excellency,

JOHN MILLEDGE,

Gov. &c., &c.,

Georgia.

favor of

S. Wall, Esqr.

WASHINGTON, July 18th, 1804.

DEAR SIR,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's favor of the 8th last Month, inclosing a resolution in my favor respecting the base charges of Cox. It has been republished from the Augusta papers in the National Intelligencer here, and has effectually counteracted the nefarious intentions designed. I feel

grateful to the Legislature, and request you, Sir, to accept my thanks for the handsome and friendly manner in which you communicated the resolution to me.

I have also to acknowledge the receipt of your two publick packets on the subject of Wofford's settlement—the last inclosing a resolution of the Legislature on the topic. The Secretary of War has the last under consideration. As soon as we get his answer, Mr. Baldwin & myself will inform your Excellency of the result. We expected Mr. Early had written on the subject of the Tennessee Road which appeared to be collaterally connected with your first packet, and he was one of the Committee appointed by the State of Kentucky, Tennessee & Georgia to advise with the Secretary.

I inclose your Excellency the Message of the President on the taking possession of Louisiana,

and am, with respect,

Y^r Excellency's Obedt. Servt.,

JAS. JACKSON.

His Excellency

John Milledge,

Governor &c.

MY DEAR MILLEDGE,

I sincerely lament your not remaining here when on the Ground. I should have been relieved from my present embarrassed situation—elected Senator contrary to my will, my expressed determination, and my interests. You had no sooner left this than the

cry of your not going to Congress the last Session you were in, was raised against you, and Griffin, Carnes, & Stith were proposed, to which was added "we must have an up Country Man." In vain was your present residence held up, and all the exertions of your Friends Twiggs, Bosticks, and others made in your favor. Stith was on the ground supported by Fort & all that train. Griffin was sent express, and all three resolved to run together on a pinch. The old Speaker on the other side determined to be a Candidate, which split our own interests, and George Jones was equally supported. Stephens also and Mitchel had their Friends—all offering to give up to me except the Fort Gang. I still resisted, and Barnett and the whole back Country then resolved to run me whether I would or not. I am now in the most responsible situation I ever was in my life—Carnes waiting to march into the Government, and notwithstanding every exertion, I am informed if I leave, it will be placed there, and if I decline the Senate, will assuredly go there. To hold on until the 4th of March will no doubt displease, and yet a large Majority of the Members insist upon it. Could I get you into either Station, I would cheerfully decline the other. I am informed Hammond, Genl. Twiggs, &c., have written you. I have thought it my duty as a Friend to be thus candid with you. I have never countenanced my election. Captain Sibbald, who hands you this, knows how matters have gone.

It is a most bitter cold morning & I can scarcely hold my pen, & must therefore conclude that with

mine & Mrs. Jackson's compliments to yourself and
Mrs. Milledge,

I am as ever

Y^r sincere Friend,

JAS. JACKSON.

JOHN MILLEDGE, Esqr.

*Personal letters of Major General James Jackson,
now in possession of his descendants in Georgia.*

DEAR MAJOR :

I have received your different dispatches both under your own hand & Mr. Wambersies. I am satisfied that you have done all in your power on the Sea Coast.

The Governor however was somewhat alarmed at the expense & the arrangement is changed—The Cutter & Pilot boat, Pilgrim, armed, are now at sea and the Guard boats discharged—The expense at St. Marys without boats was enormous.

Y^r Friend,

JAS. JACKSON.

I am so pestered that I have not time to say more than that I inclose a copy of the new arrangement & hope to see you in Town in a few days—I wish you joy of your election & handsome vote.

PHILADELPHIA, Jany. 6th, 1795.

DEAR TATNALL,

My hand is barely recovered so far as to permit my writing you a few lines—a trifling cut with an Oyster Shell previous to my leaving home has gone near to place me in Neal's situation. This must be an apology for my not having written you before—indeed—to some I might as well not have exerted myself, to write with great pain, which I did to Milledge & Mitchel from neither of whom have I received one

stroke of a pen—for reasons I suppose best known to themselves.

Matters look well in Europe & we shall escape their troubles—the French are rapidly successful—Amsterdam it is expected is in their hands & the Dutch are in general for a peace.

Inclosed is Knox's report to the President—(the last, as Secretary of War, having resigned)—respecting Indian defence, brought forward principally (as I expected) by our Legislative proceedings in Georgia—the law Martial clause, which I opposed last Session in Senate, reproduced. If it passes, we shall deserve it. We are told the Sale is passed—& if so, I consider Georgia as having passed a confiscation Act of the rights of your Children & mine, & unborn Generations, to supply the rapacious graspings of a few sharks—300,000 Dollars have gone from this City since October, & two thirds of Georgia will be held & owned by Residents in Philadelphia, in Six Months. Nature & reason declare occupancy to be the true ground of right to land—Georgia reverses the principle, and instead of encouraging individual Settlements, declares that Speculating companies* a thousand miles off, have the best right—Our Constitution breathes Republican & equality principles—Our Legislature, acting under it, establishes Aristocratic Bodies, in those Speculating companies—Vattel & all sensible writers on laws of Nations, declare a Government has no right to part with its Domain—Georgia sells the whole at a stroke—Queer, however, if *constitutionally*, & I hope the day will come, when another & a more pure & virtuous Legislature, will make null &

void this *Sale of birthright*—for in my opinion, the Legislature will constitutionally have a right to do so. The question about Congress's taking it, is foreign to the business—it has been made a speculating handle of, & I hope you believe that I am as much averse to that body's possessing one foot of it, as any of those modern patriots for self interested purposes.

Our Session is above half gone—in 2 months more, I hope to be on the way home—indeed, my interest & business at the next Court, in Chatham, calls for me sooner.

General Gunn is not yet arrived—

God bless you.

Y^{rs} most sincerely

JAS. JACKSON.

Please present my Complts. to Mrs. Tatnall.

* Morris—Nicholson—Kettere—Wilson the Judge & one or two others here are those principally concerned altho in Georgia the application appears for Georgians—they have all agents in Georgia & the others will Sell to those persons in 6 Months from this day.

Free

JAS. JACKSON.

Josiah Tatnall Junr. esqr

Bonaventure

near Savannah Georgia.

Big Fame

Capt Benda

Personal letter from Governor James Jackson to his wife.

PHILADELPHIA, May 23, 1794.

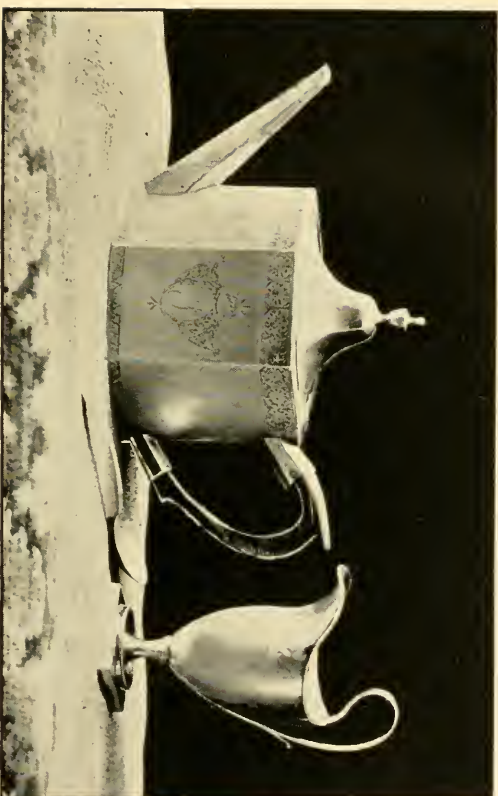
MY DEAR MARIA :

Is it possible that I am so far forgotten by you, as to permit Robertson & Webb's sailing for New York, and Hotchkiss for this port, without one solitary line from you—not a single expression to declare to me that you are happy in my safety? I arrived here this day, and my first inquiry was of Mr. Footman respecting arrivals from Savannah. Judge of my disappointment when I learnt the arrival of Hotchkiss, and had eagerly flown to the Post Office to be informed there was no line for me from you. Oh Maria, to what am I to impute this silence? Shall I harrow my soul in concluding it to be indifference towards me, and about me? That idea is too torturing to be admitted as fact. Altho your strange silence flashes it sometimes on the imagination—a fear of your illness, as suddenly drives the furious idea off, and creates itself a double pain. Perhaps—nay it must be so—my Maria languishes on the bed of sickness, or one of our little prattlers droops its head, and she cannot, or if she can she dares not inform me of it. Fatigue would never be plead by my dear girl, as an excuse for letting Robertson sail, or the permission of two subsequent opportunities, without a line. I anxiously wait for Schermerhorn's arrival to learn the cause. I wrote you from New York by Capt. Rob-

ertson on the 16th instant enclosed to Mr. Bolton, which I hope you will have received before this reaches you. I begged Mr. Cook from the Altamaha, but in New York when I left it, to call on you, and inform you of my health, and to tell you that I had written by Capt. Robertson. I should also have written you by him but that I knew of his going for Georgia, so late, that from my hurry of setting out for New Jersey it was impossible for me to write. Indeed it was after I was off I learnt his intended departure from himself in the street.

Since my arrival here, I have examined your trunk. The quantity of old silver is trifling, but will assist in procuring you a *tea pot* (see illustration) to complete your set of tea table furniture. The old lady will search the city for your china, and get the glass again in order. I shall send them the first good opportunity, but will I hope be on the way myself in one month or five weeks at farthest. I shall search the book stores for the volumes I did not procure you at New York, and will bring them with me. I ardently and anxiously long for the hour for my return. I am pretty confident that we shall not sit above twenty days, and I shall fly to you. Already, if I had returned, must I again have left my dear girl and family, which would too cruelly have tortured you, and too severely have wounded my own feelings. If I had attempted it, I should have failed. I am sensible that I could not have borne it.

I not only long to hear how you all are, but how Christie goes on in planting. I wish also to know what Rice or Cotton you had left, and what you have



This is an exact illustration of the *Tea pot*, cream pitcher and sugar spoon of the set mentioned, and was in possession of his grand-daughter of Atlanta, Ga., lately deceased.

given Schermerhorn. I expect no great things, and I shall not therefore be greatly disappointed on that head, altho I think that I could have made the crop go further myself. I hope he is managing rightly this season, and that he has the press pretty well under. Do give Hercules a charge for me; I greatly depend on him. I suppose the cotton has met last year's fate, and been cut down, for this has been the most backward season almost ever known northwardly—and Mrs. Nightingale who I saw as well as Mrs. Wright and Mrs. Dorsey, informed me at New York, that it had been fully as backward in Georgia. I was paid great attention to in New York by Commodore Nicholson and his family. It was there I saw Mrs. Nightingale. The Commodore and his daughter, Maria, are this fall going for Georgia to visit Mrs. F., and after describing the smallness of our cabin, I asked Maria to stay with you whilst in Savannah, but excused myself to the Commodore, telling him he had a ----- [Remainder of letter lost.]

Personal letter of Major General James Jackson, now in possession of Mr. Elijah A. Brown of Atlanta, Ga., and kindly loaned by him to the publisher.

CEDAR HILL, Nov. 15th, 1801.

SIR:

Although I am on the eve of my departure, to execute the trust my country has confided to me, in the Senate of the United States, I cannot forbear to communicate to your Excellency some information I have received, which I deem of importance to the State, and which, if a doubt could exist of the iniquity of the Yazoo speculation, effectually stamps the brand of infamy on the whole transaction.

The death of General Gunn, and the falling of all his papers into the hands of a Patriot and Republican, has developed such a scene of intrigue and I might add a harsher term, as the World yet never knew.

It will be recollected that the Legislature at its last Session, sanctioned the Executive in permitting John Hall to draw the pretended Georgia Company's deposit from the Treasury, under the documents he produced; which I am still of opinion were equal to the requisition of our Laws. It will also be recollected that I was anxious he should receive it, knowing well from his behaviour and conversation, on my interrogating him on the subject, from whence he came,

and by whom he was sent; and it has turned out precisely to my expectations.

Major James Benjamin Maxwell, the late General Gunn's agent, and who has letters to collect his effects from the Court of Ordinary of Chatham, a few days since did me the pleasure of a call, in company with Mr. Bulloch, the Attorney-General; and in the course of conversation the affairs of General Gunn, became the topic. After some inquiries on my side, with all that frankness the Major is blessed with, and a declaration that he had a regard for the late General, but that no individual attachment was equal to that he had for his country, he acknowledged to the Attorney General and myself, that he had papers to the following purport, in his possession, to-wit :

First. The power of agency to John Hall from certain of the Grantees of the Georgia pretended company, to draw the deposit from the Treasury.

Secondly. The partition or division of the whole sum drawn among those Grantees.

Thirdly. A letter from John Hall to General Gunn accounting for the sum drawn, with a complaint against George Walker that he had made an error in counting the money and had detained five or six hundred Dollars more than his right and pointing out to Gunn the mode to be followed with Walker to make him refund.

Lastly. A note of hand of James Simms, esquire, one of the Members of the late and present house of Representatives, for five thousand dollars, supposed to have been given to Hall by John Berrien, the late Treasurer.

The Grant of the pretended Georgia company, which I deem of no consequence at all, but which in the eye of the most scrupulous Yazoo advocate, must now be considered void, was in General Gunn's possession and lodged with forty-five thousand dollars, I suppose of the sum drawn, in one of the banks in Philadelphia, but is now with that sum in the hands of a speculator by the name of Bond, who has administered on the General's effects in that City. No Will has as yet been discovered but a cancelled one, and it is conceded that the General left no Heir. Shall I presume to hint the absolute necessity of an escheat law, not only in this but numerous cases?

If your Excellency should deem proper I have no objection to have this communication laid before both branches; indeed, it cannot be too much promulgated that a set of Characters, after attempting to rob the State and posterity by fraudulently obtaining a barter of their rights, and collecting large sums from innocent individuals in every quarter of the Union for the pretended sales of the lands so fraudulently obtained, should have the assurance, not to say villainy, to come forward and draw the whole deposit, chiefly monies of those innocent individuals, from the Treasury and place it in their own pockets. They have now, however, a remedy.

I submit it to your Excellency and the Legislative wisdom, if some steps should not be taken to obtain the papers in Major Maxwell's hands, and if a legislative act indemnifying him for Their delivery to

some Officer appointed to receive them, may not be proper.

I am, Sir, with perfect esteem,

Yr. Excellcy's Obed. Servt.,

JAS. JACKSON.

